No one should miss out on the college experience for financial reasons. That’s what we believe at Carrington College®, and we’ve set up the tools to make that a reality. We will help you set up a plan to make sure money doesn’t stand in the way of your education – or your dreams.

This guide is the place to begin. (And remember, you can always get in touch with a Carrington Student Finance Advisor for help.) First, fill out our Student Finance Checklist. You’ll also need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, which you will find here, also. These quick steps will get you started on your own financial plan – and on your Carrington College education.

Your personalized financial plan may consist of:

- Student self-help
- Family assistance
- Outside financial assistance

Carrington College participates in most financial assistance programs. Students who apply may qualify and accept assistance from various programs including:

- Federal and state grants
- Federal, state and private loans
- Scholarships
- Work study programs
- Veterans and military benefits
- Employer tuition assistance

Student loans and grants are available to those who qualify.
**1. Financial Need**

Financial need is based on the following federal definitions:

- **Cost of Attendance** (direct and indirect costs)
- **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

**DIRECTIONS TO CONTACT:**
- Tuition, fees, books and supplies
- INDIRECT COSTS: Transportation, personal expenses, and room and board

**EFC** is determined using information provided on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

To best determine your eligibility, it is important that you inform Carrington Student Finance of recent changes to your family’s financial situation (loss of job or income, change in marital status, death of a family member, etc.) in writing, with as much detail as possible.

**2. General Eligibility for Federal Programs**

In order to qualify for federal aid programs, you must:

- Enroll at least half-time
- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Not be in default on a federal education loan
- Not have significant financial need
- Register with Selective Service (if you are a male and were born on or after January 1, 1960)
- Enroll as a degree-seeking student
- Meet all other criteria

**3. Dependency Status**

The federal government has established how dependency status is determined for federal financial aid purposes. A student is considered dependent if he or her parent(s)/parents’ income and asset information must be included on the FAFSA. This information will be used in addition to the student’s income and asset information to determine the EFC. The following questions will help determine if you are an independent or dependent student:

- **Yes**
  - Were you born before January 1, 1991?
  - Are you married?
  - Are you working full-time during the 2014-2015 school year, or will you be working on a master’s or doctoral program?
  - Are you currently caring for a child under 13 years of age who has a physical or mental handicap?
  - Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015?
  - Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who lived with you and who received more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2015?
  - *Only for students born on or after July 1, 2009*
    - When you were age 13 or older, were your parents divorced, were you in foster care or were you a ward (dependent) of the court?

- **No**
  - Were you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?
  - Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?
  - Were you born before January 1, 1991?

**4. Types of Financial Assistance**

- **GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **STATE-FUNDED PROGRAMS**
- **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**
- **PRIVATE LOANS**

**GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Grants and scholarships are aid provided by Carrington College, federal or state governments, or other outside sources that usually does not need to be repaid. There are criteria you must meet in order to qualify, depending on the program.

**Federal Pell Grants**

These are grants for undergraduate students (who have not earned a prior bachelor’s degree) of up to $5,730 for the award year. The actual amount of the grant is based on the cost of attendance, number of hours enrolled, and the student’s EFC.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)**

These are grants for undergraduate students who have not earned a prior bachelor’s degree with exceptional need. SEOG grants are awarded up to $500 or $600 (depending on location) per academic year for those who qualify. The federal government provides the school with a limited pool of money. When the funds are exhausted, no more funds are awarded.

**Carrington College Scholarships**

Carrington College offers scholarships each year for students who meet specified criteria. For scholarship consideration, students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

**Outside Scholarships**

Many outside scholarships are available from various sources. For more information about outside scholarships, visit Carrington College’s website at carrington.edu, for more information.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Federal Pell Grant**

The Federal Pell Grant is a grant program that awards money to students based on need. Total amounts are fixed and vary each year. The amount awarded is based on student’s EFC.

**Federal Work-Study (FWS)**

A student who needs part-time employment while attending school is eligible for Federal Work-Study (FWS). The FWS provides funding to work-study students, and the funds are awarded on an as-needed basis. The funds are renewed each year.

**Employer Tuition Assistance**

A student who is eligible for tuition reimbursement from his or her employer. For students whose employers finance their education, a direct billing arrangement between the employer and Carrington College may be possible.

**Veterans and Military Benefits**

Many students are eligible for GI Bill® benefits and/or tuition assistance based on their prior or current military service. Active-duty military students may be eligible for tuition assistance through a program of service or stationed base. Carrington College will invoice the appropriate agency. For more information, contact your Student Finance Professional and visit www.gibill.va.gov:

**PRIVATE LOANS**

These loans are aid that must be repaid, typically once students have graduated or dropped out of school. Student loans are generally based on need, in cases where a credit check is required.

**Federal Perkins Loan**

Students attending California locations may be eligible for the Federal Perkins Loan, awarded up to $5,000 per academic year. The Perkins loan is a subsidized loan carrying a 5% interest rate. This loan is awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional financial need and meet all other qualifications.

**Direct Subsidized Loan**

The amount that a student is awarded for Federal Perkins Loan is determined by the amount that the student demonstrates financial need, which is based on a credit check.

**Direct Unsubsidized Loan**

The amount that a student is awarded for Federal Perkins Loan is determined by the amount that the student demonstrates financial need, which is based on a credit check.

For more information, please refer to Carrington College’s website at carrington.edu.