

## College Board Financial Aid System

# CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®

### Fact:

You can make better awarding decisions if you have complete family financial information at the right time. PROFILE's accurate, timely financial picture equips you with the information you need to attract, enroll and retain the students you want.

### Challenge:

How can I make sure I have all the information I need to fairly and accurately award student aid on a calendar that supports my institution's enrollment goals?

### Solution:

## CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® is a service that helps you manage the financial aid process more efficiently and cost effectively. PROFILE provides the information you need to make sensitive financial aid decisions. With PROFILE, you receive an accurate representation of the financial strength of a student's family — right when you need it.



For more information, call 800-927-4302  
or e-mail [enrollmentsolutions@collegeboard.org](mailto:enrollmentsolutions@collegeboard.org).

Visit us at [www.collegeboard.com/highered](http://www.collegeboard.com/highered).

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accommodates your recruitment cycle. PROFILE is available October 1 for students to complete, which allows you to start early and spread the workload over several months.

### Benefits:

- **Supports early communication with families about college affordability**, including early award estimates for applicants you are interested in enrolling at your institution.
- **Collects additional institution-specific information** from families at your discretion, allowing you to eliminate your institutional application.
- **Ensures comprehensive and reliable data** — good information means better aid decisions, and results in fewer family appeals of aid offers.
- **Helps you target your institutional aid** more accurately to those students who need it the most.
- **Provides an application process that is quick and simple for students.** Here's how it works:
  - Students can register for the PROFILE service online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and indicate the colleges to which they will apply.
  - Based on registration information and college choices, each student receives a customized PROFILE Application at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).
  - The application is processed and analyzed by the College Board, and a comprehensive financial report is sent to each college the student listed.



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PROFILE integrates seamlessly with Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC), and data from PROFILE feeds PowerFAIDS® and Institutional Need Analysis System (INAS®), which is a central component of various campuswide systems.

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### Features:

- **Convenient 24/7 access** to online registration and information to support speedy reporting to colleges and universities.
- **Fee waivers granted automatically to first-time, first-year dependent applicants** whose parents reside in the U.S. and meet income and asset eligibility criteria.
- **FAFSA Worksheet available** to help students complete the FAFSA after completing the PROFILE.
- **Three years of income information requested from parents** to help identify year-to-year changes in family ability to pay.
- **Calculation of the family contribution using Institutional Methodology** to help you measure eligibility for institutional aid.
- **Calculation of the estimated Federal Methodology EFC** to help you estimate eligibility for federal aid.
- **Information from noncustodial parents collected** at your discretion to help you acquire a complete picture of family financial strength.
- **Web-based images of all data as reported on the PROFILE application.** Images can also be downloaded into campus imaging system.
- **Possible data inconsistencies reported** in edit messages to draw attention to information needing review.
- **Business and farm information collected** when applicable, and images of reported business/farm income and asset data displayed regardless of the number of employees.
- **Adapted for use by international aid applicants.** Consistent questions and answers yield consistent results using Institutional Methodology. 24/7 online access simplifies the process for parents and students.