

# Quick Reference 2024–25 High School Educators

## Scholarship Scams Scam Warning Signs

You have to pay a fee

Money-back offers or guarantees

Credit card or bank account information required

Provides “exclusive” information

## Common Scams

### “Phishing”

Unsolicited emails that bear the logo of your bank or credit card

Appear legitimate but are traps to lure you into giving out your personal or account information

NEVER give out Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers to unsolicited emails or calls

### “Pharming”

Unsolicited emails that encourage you to visit a website or click on suspicious links

Make sure your inbox spam filters are up to date

BE CAREFUL about giving out your contact information or email address

## Reporting Scams

### National Fraud Information Center (NFIC)

File an online complaint at [www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org)

### Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

File an online complaint at [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov), call 202-326-2222, or write to: Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center  
600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20580

### State Attorney General’s Office

File your complaint with the Consumer Protection Division in your state. Visit [www.naag.org](http://www.naag.org) to find your state Attorney General’s Office

### US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)

File an online complaint involving mail fraud at [postalinspectors.uspis.gov](http://postalinspectors.uspis.gov), call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to: Criminal Investigations Service Center  
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Ste. 1250  
Chicago, IL 60606-6100

### Better Business Bureau (BBB)

File an online complaint about a business at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org) or call 703-276-0100

## 2024–2025 Key Dates for High School Students

### September 2024

National College Savings Month

### October 2024

Remind students: FAFSA 2025–26 application period opens after Oct. 1st

### November 2024

National Scholarship Month

### December 2024

Fill out FAFSA ASAP to maximize chances for aid

### January 2025

Remind students: Complete FAFSA & Submit

### February 2025

Financial Aid Awareness Month

### April 2025

National Financial Literacy Month,  
Federal income tax due for 2024 – April 15th

### May 2025

National Candidates’ Reply Date – May 1st

### June 2025

Last day to submit 2024–25 FAFSA – June 30,  
Order Fastweb materials for 2025–26

## Test Information

Below is information on test entities and where to find test dates:

### ACT (American College Testing)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### AP (Advanced Placement)

[apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com)

### CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)

[clep.collegeboard.org](http://clep.collegeboard.org)

### PSAT (Preliminary SAT) / NMSQT

(National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)

[collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat](http://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat)

### SAT and SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test)

Subject Tests

[collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat](http://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat)

Have a question or  
comment?

[memberservices@fastweb.com](mailto:memberservices@fastweb.com)

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## Fastweb Educator Resources

Share Fastweb with your students, order free printed materials find online tools:  
[www.fastweb.com/educators](http://www.fastweb.com/educators)

### Have a question or comment:

[memberservices@fastweb.com](mailto:memberservices@fastweb.com)

## Contacts

### Associations/Organizations

#### ACA (American Counseling Association)

[membership@counseling.org](mailto:membership@counseling.org)  
[www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org)

#### ASCA

#### (American School Counselor Association)

[asca@schoolcounselor.org](mailto:asca@schoolcounselor.org)  
[www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

#### The College Board

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

#### NACAC

#### (National Association for College

#### Admission Counseling)

[info@nacacnet.org](mailto:info@nacacnet.org)  
[www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org)

#### NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators)

[info@nasfaa.org](mailto:info@nasfaa.org)  
[www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

#### NCAN (National College Access Network)

[ncan@collegeaccess.org](mailto:ncan@collegeaccess.org)  
[www.collegeaccess.org](http://www.collegeaccess.org)

#### NSPA

#### (National Scholarship Providers Assoc)

[nsipa@scholarshipproviders.org](mailto:nsipa@scholarshipproviders.org)  
[www.scholarshipproviders.org](http://www.scholarshipproviders.org)

## Government Departments

### U.S. Department of Education

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

### FAFSA

#### (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

[studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)

### Federal Student Aid Help Center

[www.studentaid.gov/help-center](http://www.studentaid.gov/help-center)

### NCES (National Center for Education Statistics)

[www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov)

## College & Career

### College Admissions

#### College Search

[www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles](http://www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles)

#### Common Application

[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

#### Educational Opportunity Centers Program

[www2.ed.gov/programs/trioeoc](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/trioeoc)

#### Job Corps

[www.jobcorps.gov](http://www.jobcorps.gov)

#### NACAC College Fairs

[www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/](http://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/)

## Jobs & Career

### Monster Career Advice

[www.monster.com/career-advice](http://www.monster.com/career-advice)

### Fastweb Part-Time Jobs

[www.fastweb.com/part-time-jobs](http://www.fastweb.com/part-time-jobs)

### Career Planning

[www.fastweb.com/career-planning](http://www.fastweb.com/career-planning)

### Bureau of Labor Statistics

[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

## Web Resources

### ERIC (Education Resources Info Center)

[www.eric.ed.gov](http://www.eric.ed.gov)

### College Insight

[www.collegeinsight.org](http://www.collegeinsight.org)

### Student Tax Info

[www.irs.gov/individuals/students](http://www.irs.gov/individuals/students)

### National Center for Education Statistics

[nces.ed.gov](http://nces.ed.gov)

### Selective Service System

[www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)

### Social Security Administration

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

### TRIO Programs

[www.coenet.org](http://www.coenet.org)

## Financial Aid

### Important Resources

#### Fastweb for Educators

[www.fastweb.com/educators](http://www.fastweb.com/educators)

#### Finaid

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

#### FAFSA

#### (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

[studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)

#### FAFSA 4Caster

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/estimate>

#### CSS PROFILE

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.com>

#### Federal Student Aid for Counselors

[financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov](http://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov)

#### Federal Student Aid for Students

[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

#### IFAP

#### (Information for Financial Aid Professionals)

[www.ifap.ed.gov](http://www.ifap.ed.gov)

#### Mapping Your Future

[www.mappingyourfuture.org](http://www.mappingyourfuture.org)

#### NASFAA

#### (National Association of Financial Aid Administrators)

[www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

#### NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)

[www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org)

#### OPE (Office of Postsecondary Education)

[www.ed.gov/ope](http://www.ed.gov/ope)

#### Financial Aid Calculators

[www.finaid.org/calculators](http://www.finaid.org/calculators)

## Higher Ed News & Views

### Chronicle of Higher Education

[www.chronicle.com](http://www.chronicle.com)

### Inside Higher Ed

[www.insidehighered.com](http://www.insidehighered.com)

## Federal Loans

### US Dept. of Education

The US Dept of Education offers low-interest loans to cover cost of college or career school.

### Direct Subsidized Loan

#### For undergrad students with financial need

School determines amount and may not exceed financial need. Dept of Education pays interest while in school at least half time

### Direct Unsubsidized Loan

#### For undergrad and grad students enrolled no requirement to demonstrate financial need

School determines amount based on cost of attendance and other financial aid. Student is responsible for interest

### Direct PLUS Loan

#### For grad or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students

Loan amount is maximum cost of attendance. Credit check required. Dept. of Education is the lender

### Private Loans

Students should borrow with federal loans first which are cheaper, more available and have better repayment terms than private/student loans. Eligibility, interest rate and fees for private loans based on credit scores

#### More information on private/alternative loans at [www.finaid.org/loans/](http://www.finaid.org/loans/)

## More Student Aid Resources

### Scholarship Search

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

### AmeriCorps

[www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov)

### City Year

[www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org)

### Student Loans

[www.studentaid.gov/loans](http://www.studentaid.gov/loans)

### EduPASS: International Students

[www.edupass.org](http://www.edupass.org)

### State Resources

[www.finaid.org/state](http://www.finaid.org/state)

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