



FINANCIAL AID 2019-2020

Completing the FAFSA

- Complete your FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1 each year.
- Submit your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov. – It's FREE!
- Students under the age of 24 will be required to provide parent information unless they are:
 - Married
 - Veteran/active duty
 - Orphan/ward/emancipated minor
 - Court-ordered legal guardianship
 - Supporting child(ren)/dependent(s)
 - Homeless
 - Graduate student

The 2019-20 FAFSA will require 2017 income information.

Tips for Success

- New users (both students and parents) should create an FSA ID at www.fsaaid.ed.gov at least 2-3 days before completing the FAFSA. This is the electronic signature required for students and preferred for parents.
- Visit www.bhc.edu/FAforms for instructions on:
 - Creating an FSA ID.
 - Linking your BHC email to a personal email account.
 - Reviewing your financial aid information on myBlackHawk.
 - Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.
 - And other useful information!
- Regularly check your myBlackHawk and BHC email accounts – Communication with students is electronic and only available through these school accounts.
- Keep an eye out – Financial aid notifications will be emailed in March-April 2019.



DID YOU KNOW? To continue receiving financial aid, students must make "satisfactory academic progress" toward earning their degree. Students must: 1) maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA, 2) earn 67% of total credit hours attempted, and 3) attempt no more than 96 credit hours for an associates degree or 48 credit hours for a certificate. (www.bhc.edu/financial-aid-policies)



What if we have special circumstances?

Was there recently a change in your parents' marital status? Has there been a reduction in your household income since 2017? Do you have limited or no contact with your parents?

These types of special circumstances may warrant additional review by the Financial Aid Office on a case-by-case basis. This review may determine an allowable adjustment to the application information and resulting financial aid eligibility.

Contact the Financial Aid Office to discuss any life events that may qualify as a special circumstance.

myBlackHawk Instructions

For tips and video instructions, visit www.bhc.edu/myblackhawk.

For login assistance, use the "Forgot Username" or "Trouble Logging In" links or contact the Help Desk at 309-796-5555.

What documentation do we need?

To submit a FAFSA, both student and parent will need:

- FSA ID
- Social Security Number (*citizens*)
- Permanent Resident document (*non-citizens*)
- Current banking statements
- 2017 federal income taxes
- 2017 W2/1099 forms
- Records of untaxed 2017 income
- Records of assets and investments
– *do not include retirement*

My FAFSA's done – Now what?

Congratulations! You've submitted your application and have completed the first step in applying for financial aid. But now what?

- Understand your anticipated costs so you can budget your financial aid (www.bhc.edu/tuition).
- Additional information may be needed, so watch for financial aid requirements. Notifications will be sent to BHC emails beginning March-April 2019.
- BHC scholarships require a separate application, which is available March 1 and due May 1 (www.bhc.edu/scholarships).
- Know that Finish Financial Aid Day is July 1, 2019 – Students should submit all financial aid requirements by this date in order to have funds in place by the fall payment deadline of July 24, 2019.
- Students who do not complete requirements by July 1 should prepare to make deferred payment arrangements to hold their fall classes (www.bhc.edu/payments).
- To be considered for federal student loans, complete the BHC Loan Application and requirements at www.bhc.edu/loans.
- Be aware that enrollment and financial aid are finalized on the 10th day of the semester. Courses added after the 10th day will not be eligible for financial aid.
- Consult with the Financial Aid Office before dropping any classes as your eligibility may be affected.
- To continue receiving financial aid each semester, students must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements (www.bhc.edu/financial-aid-policies).

JULY 1, 2019 – FINISH FINANCIAL AID DAY