2013-2014
FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Five easy steps to applying for financial aid:

1. Complete the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at **www.fafsa.ed.gov**. **Centralia College's federal school code is 003772**. Computers and assistance are available at the Financial Aid Office.
2. Complete a Centralia College Data Sheet, the electronic form is available on the Financial Aid homepage at www.centralia.edu.
3. Apply for admissions. If you are a new student OR did not attend Centralia College last quarter you can apply for admissions online at www.centralia.edu.
4. Submit academic transcripts for all of the schools you have attended within the last five years.
5. One in three FAFSA applications are selected for verification. The verification process requires verifying all income information, household size and number in college. New verification rules require IRS data to be verified by linking IRS data to your FAFSA application or by obtaining a tax transcript directly from the IRS.

What is a priority deadline?

As most funds are available on a limited basis, we encourage you to apply early. For maximum consideration of available funds, including Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), you must have a complete financial aid file (Data Sheet, FAFSA, Application for Admissions, etc.) by **April 15, 2013**.

If your file is complete after **April 15, 2013**, and you are planning on attending fall quarter 2013, funding will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Files completed after the priority deadline will be reviewed in an on-going process but we **cannot** guarantee they will be reviewed by the time tuition is due.

Am I eligible for financial aid?

Grants and jobs are available to help offset the cost of college for students who apply for and demonstrate financial need. The financial aid process can take one to three months to complete. Federal and state laws regulate the distribution of financial aid funds; therefore, your eligibility cannot be determined unless you complete the application process.

At a minimum, in order to be considered for financial aid, you must submit a Data Sheet, FAFSA, and be admitted into the institution.

You must also:
1. be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
2. have a high school diploma or GED
3. not owe a repayment on grants or be in default on a student loan
4. if male, be registered with the Selective Service (applicable to most males)
5. be able to sign a statement of educational purpose
6. be enrolled in an eligible college certificate or degree program

What if I am selected for verification?

One in three Financial Aid Applications (FAFSA) are selected for a process called verification. This requires the Financial Aid Office to verify information that was reported on the FAFSA. New for 2013-14, there have been significant changes to the verification process. Verification is now customized, meaning that items required to be verified are different for each applicant. Verification groups are how students are identified by the processor and there are 5 different groupings. Depending on what group a student is assigned will determine what documents are needed to meet verification requirements. The 5 groups are:

V1   Standard Verification Group
V2   SNAP (Food Assistance) Verification Group
V3   Child Support Verification Group
V4   Custom Verification
V5   Aggregate Verification Group

To ensure you complete the correct verification worksheets, you will need to check your financial aid information on the student web portal.

Additional sources of financial aid funding

Scholarships

Centralia College offers a large number of academic and need-based scholarships. The Centralia College scholarship program is funded by tuition waivers, scholarship endowment earnings, and gifts. Part of every tuition dollar goes to support the scholarship program. The Centralia College Foundation plays a major role in raising scholarship dollars. Annual deadline is March 1.

*** *Also check out Washington State's new scholarship search engine at www.thewashboard.org* *******

Worker Retraining

The Worker Retraining program can assist with tuition, fees, books, and supplies for those who qualify. Generally, students would be considered dislocated workers if they are receiving Washington State unemployment benefits or have exhausted benefits within the previous twenty four months, or are on Commissioner Approved Training. Please contact the Worker Retraining Intake Center at (360) 736-9391, ext. 385 for more information.

WorkFirst

The WorkFirst program helps cover the cost of tuition and books for eligible students. To be eligible you must be on TANF. The WorkFirst program covers vocational/technical classes and certificates/degrees, high school completion, asset/compass testing, GED testing, and some continuing education courses. WorkFirst Work-Study is also available to students who are receiving TANF and need to work. Please contact Lisa Welch at (360) 736-9391, ext. 237 for more information.

Opportunity Grant

The Opportunity Grant program can assist with tuition, fees, books, and some supplies for low income Washington State residents over 18 years old. The grant may pay for up to a total of 45 credits over a period of three years.

To qualify for the program, you must be working toward a degree in the following fields:

Accounting	Criminal Justice	Energy Technology (PPO)
Business	Early Childhood Education	Medical
Civil Engineering Technology	Electronics/Robotics/Automation	Welding

Please contact Lisa Welch at (360) 736-9391, ext. 237 for more information.

Employment

There are both on campus and off campus employment opportunities available:

On-campus work programs include: Federal Work-Study On-Campus, State Work-Study On-Campus, and Institutional (non work-study) employment. Most on-campus jobs pay state minimum wage.

Off-campus jobs include: State Work-Study Off-Campus, Federal Work-Study Off-Campus, and Cooperative Education. Off campus jobs are paid by the employer and generally must be related to the student's program of study.

For additional information contact, Joan Rogerson in the Student Job Center at (360) 736-9391, ext. 208.

How much does it cost to attend Centralia College?

	At Home	Not At Home	Non Resident
Tuition* and fees (3 quarters)	$4,311	$4,311	$4,701
Books & Supplies	1,002	1,002	1,002
Transportation	1,530	1,530	1,530
Personal	1,575	1,755	**
Room & Board	3,096	9,243	**

The above listed tuition amount is the 2012-2013 amount for 13 credits
**Non-residents, use Personal and Room & Board from "At Home" or "Not at Home"*

What happens after I apply?

Watch your mailbox/e-mail. You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) from the Federal Processor. Be sure to verify that Centralia College is listed. If Centralia College is not listed, go back to www.fafsa.ed.gov to make corrections and add our school code (003772). Once we receive your application, it will be reviewed by a financial aid advisor for completion and accuracy. The Financial Aid Office will notify students of needed documents and/or awards through their Centralia College e-mail account, but you can always check on the Financial Aid Student Portal located on the financial aid webpage to check the status of your file. Carefully read all attached documents. You must complete and submit your Award Notification and Conditions of Awards to receive financial aid funds through the student portal.

What are my responsibilities while receiving aid?

Students are **required** to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards. Students who complete all credits with at least a current and cumulative 2.00 GPA are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress. Students in a two-year program of study may not have more than 50% of their quarterly credits in correspondence classes. One year certificates are excluded from having any correspondence courses count toward their quarterly financial aid credit load. There are also timeframe limits. Generally, a student will be funded for the number of credits needed for their certificate/degree, as published in the Centralia College catalog. Students with prior college credits may have their timeframe reduced. Federal regulations state that prior attendance MUST be considered. Timeframe may be extended up to 45 credits for college prep (below 100 level) classes. Specific requirements are listed in the Financial Aid Handbook which is available online at www.centralia.edu.

I still have questions, who can I contact?

The Financial Aid Office staff is here to help answer your questions. Communication with students is primarily handled via e-mail at financialaid@centralia.edu. Our office is located in the Student Services Center and is available:

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Summer hours are:
Monday through Thursday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM