

Student Financial Aid Information

BCC Title IV Code

BCC's Title IV Code is **002176**. Use this code on the FAFSA to insure that your information is sent to BCC.

PIN – Personal Identification Number

You should apply for a PIN to complete your FAFSA online. If parent information is provided on the FAFSA, at least one parent should also obtain a PIN. Applying online with the PIN will expedite the processing of your FAFSA. You and/or your parent can apply for a PIN while completing the FAFSA on the Web. In most cases, a PIN will be assigned immediately.

The PIN can be used

- To electronically sign your FAFSA
- Check the status of your application
- Obtain application results more quickly
- Complete the renewal forms in future years
- And check your student loan history through the [National Student Loan Data System](#).

This PIN is not the same as your accessBCC PIN.

Minimum Requirements for Financial Aid Eligibility

In order to qualify for Financial Aid you must

- Complete a FAFSA.
- Have a valid social security number.
- Have a high school diploma, High School Equivalency Certificate or home-schooled documentation.
- Be accepted and enrolled in an eligible degree or certificate program.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- Do not owe a refund on any federal/state educational grant nor be in default of any previous education loans.
- Be a U. S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Submit all the required and requested documents to the Financial Aid Office.
- Register with [Selective Service](#) if required
- Resolve any drug conviction issues

Dependent or Independent Applicant Status

An independent applicant meets one of the conditions listed below and parental information is not needed

- Age 24 as defined by the FAFSA
- Married
- Has dependent children (provides more than one-half annual support)
- Has other legal dependents (provides more than one-half annual support)
- Veteran of U. S. Armed Forces
- Has a Bachelor's Degree

All other applicants are considered to be dependent and parental information is needed. Click [here](#) for the U. S. Department of Education definition of a parent. There are certain situations in which an applicant may be considered independent based on circumstances such as Unaccompanied Youth status, homelessness, emancipated minor, legal guardianship, foster care or ward of the state. Click [here](#) for more information.

Also, in extreme and documented circumstances, such as estrangement or abuse, the college can waive the parental information requirement through the dependency override process. Conditions that do not qualify for a dependency override

would include parents who are unwilling to contribute or provide information, do not claim student as a tax dependent or live in another country. A student who does not qualify for a dependency override but cannot obtain parental information should complete the Parent Refuse form and would be considered for Unsubsidized Direct Loans only. The Dependency Override and Parent Refuse forms are available on the [Forms](#) page.

Income or Family Situation has Changed

When you complete the FAFSA you will be asked about your income for the prior year. If there has been a significant change in your family situation or if your current income is less than the income reported on the FAFSA, you can request re-evaluation. You will need to submit supporting documentation with the request. It may be possible to have your eligibility re-calculated using the most up-to-date information. [Click here to update your FAFSA information.](#)

Aid Suspension Due to Drug Conviction

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, suspends aid eligibility for students who have been convicted under federal or state law of the sale or possession of drugs, if the offense occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving federal student aid. If you have convictions for these offenses, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243 or [click here](#) for more information. If you have lost federal student aid eligibility due to a drug conviction, you can regain eligibility if you pass two unannounced drug tests conducted by a drug rehabilitation program that complies with criteria established by the U. S. Department of Education.

MASSGrant Notices

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) will notify you directly of your MASSGrant eligibility. Letters received from OSFA refer to **MASSGrant funding only** and will not affect other assistance offered by BCC. For example, if you receive a notice from OSFA that your application is "Denied Based on Financial Aid Need Criteria" or "Denied Based on Late Application" or any other ineligible condition, the denial is for MASSGrant award only and will not affect any financial aid offer (Pell Grant, Direct Loan, ...) made to you by BCC. For more information on MASSGrant program guidelines, click [here](#).