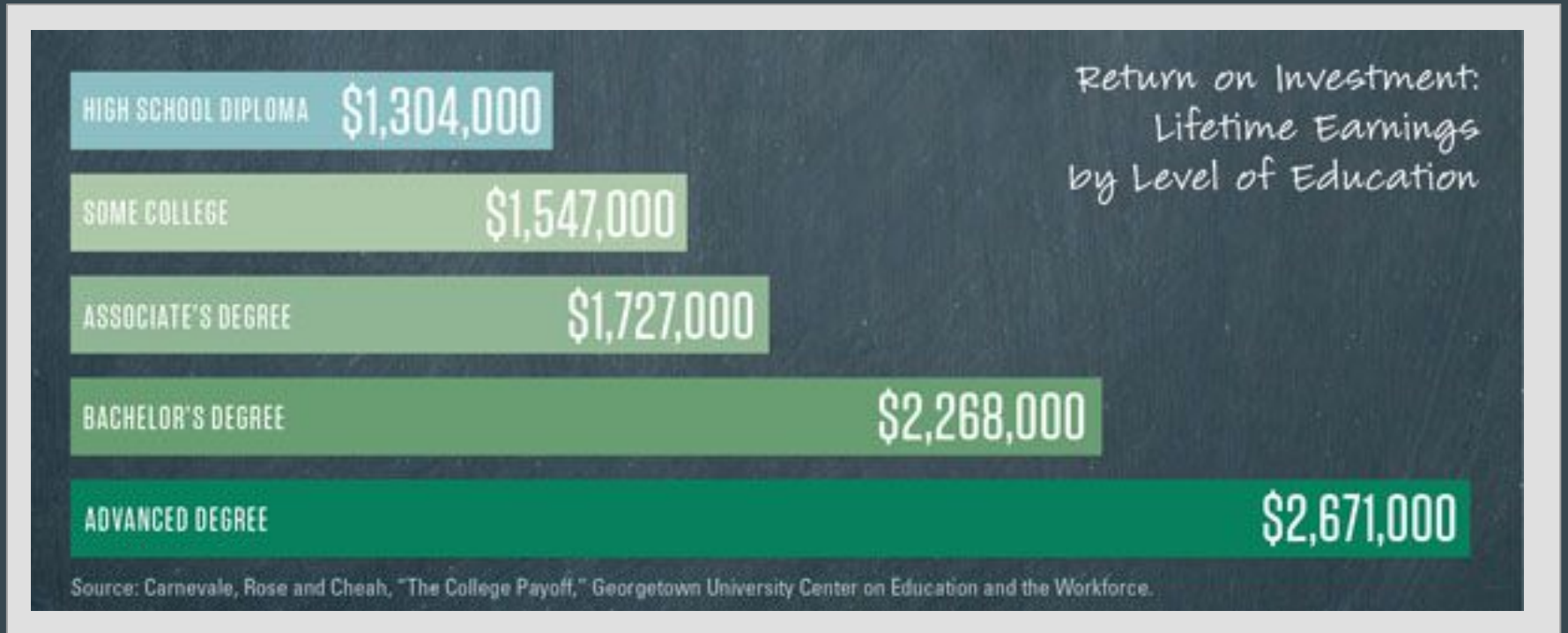


McLean High School Student Services Presents: PAYING FOR COLLEGE



Why College?



Earning a college degree results in much greater lifetime earnings.

Understanding the Cost of College



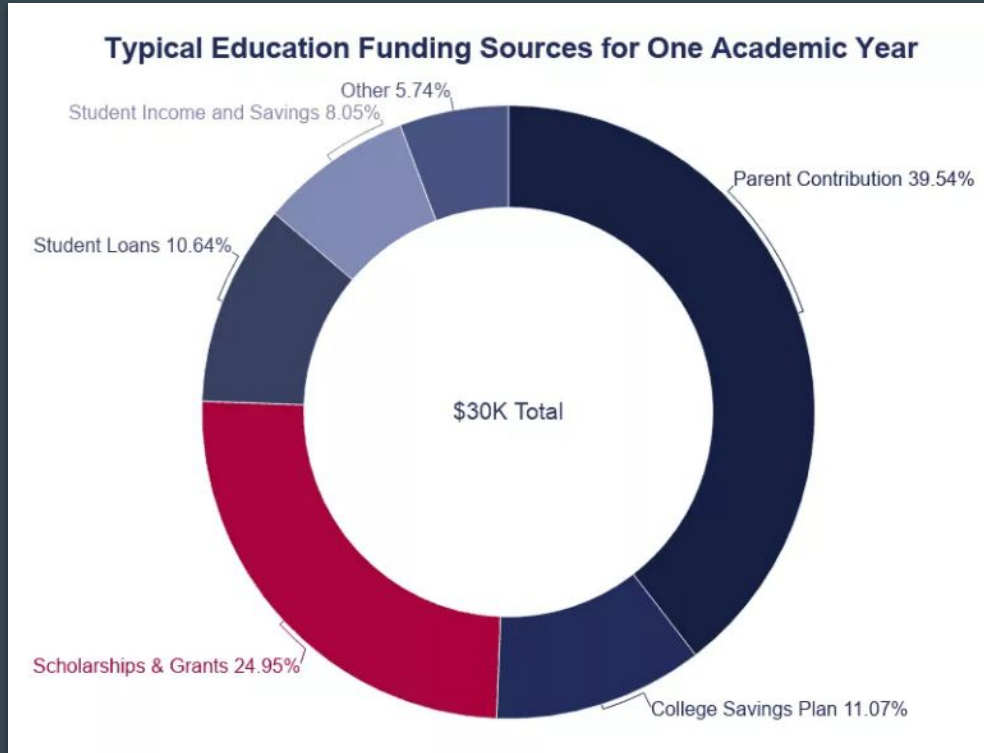
- Tuition & Fees
- Housing & Food



- Books & Supplies
- Transportation
- Personal Expenses



How Are People Paying for College?



Source: Hanson, Melanie. "How Do People Pay for College?" EducationData.org, April 23, 2022, <https://educationdata.org/how-do-people-pay-for-college>

Earn College Credits in High School for FREE!

Save money by graduating from college faster! You can earn college credit in high school in two ways:

1. Dual Enrollment (DE) classes - earn a C or better in the class and receive automatic college credit at any college in the state of Virginia.
2. Advanced Placement (AP) Classes - pass the AP exam at the end of the course and receive college credit. Scores and courses colleges will accept vary from school to school.

Dual Enrollment (DE) Classes at McLean

McLean offers DE classes mainly to juniors and seniors. Students take the class at McLean High School and can earn both high school and college credit in the following classes:

- English 11 DE
- English 12 DE
- US VA History DE
- Precalculus w/ Trig DE
- Calculus 1 DE
- Multivariable Calculus DE
- Linear Algebra DE
- Differential Equations DE
- Chemistry 2 DE
- Entrepreneurship 1 DE
- Entrepreneurship 2 DE
- Early Childhood Careers DE
- Discrete Structures & Computer Org DE



Dual Enrollment (DE) Classes at FCPS Academies

McLean students can take dual enrollment classes at nearby FCPS academies as part of their class schedule during the day. Check out the following academies that our students attend most frequently to earn college credit as well as earn certifications in the trades.

[Marshall Academy](#)

[Falls Church Academy](#)

[Fairfax Academy](#)

Talk with your school counselor to see if these classes are the right fit for you!

Early Online College with NOVA

Early Online College gives qualified juniors and seniors in FCPS an opportunity to take up to two *tuition-free courses* per semester.

Go to the following website for information about the program:

<https://www.nvcc.edu/admissions/dual-enrollment/early-online-college.html>

There are virtual information sessions and orientations that you may attend to learn more!

Types of Financial Aid



- Do not need to be repaid:
 - Grants
 - Grants are highly desirable because they do not need to be repaid. To be eligible for most grants, you must submit the FAFSA.
 - Scholarships
 - Scholarships are given to reward special talents, promote academic achievement, and support individuals with financial need or unusual life circumstances.
 - Work Study
 - Federal work-study helps students with financial need pay for their education by providing a part-time job on or off campus.
- Need to be repaid:
 - Loans
 - A loan is money you borrow and must repay with interest over a specified period of time. When managed carefully, loans can be a responsible investment in your future.

MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Many scholarships are given to students based on their academic achievements (grades and standardized test scores). Some colleges will automatically consider students for merit based scholarships when they apply. The chart below shows automatic scholarships that students will receive if they are admitted to Miami University in Ohio with the listed GPA.

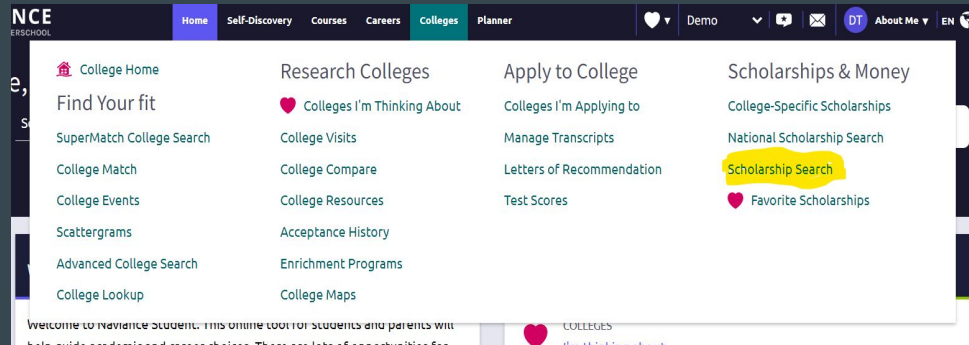
WEIGHTED HIGH SCHOOL GPA ¹	OHIO RESIDENT (ANNUAL AMOUNT) ²	NON-RESIDENT (ANNUAL AMOUNT) ²
4.30+	Starting at \$4,000	Starting at \$15,000
3.95-4.29	Starting at \$3,000	Starting at \$10,000
3.75-3.94	Starting at \$2,000	Starting at \$6,000
3.50-3.74	Starting at \$1,000	Starting at \$4,000

SCHOLARSHIPS (continued)

There are many other types of scholarships given by outside organizations. Students can use Naviance to search for scholarships.

To search for scholarships in Naviance:

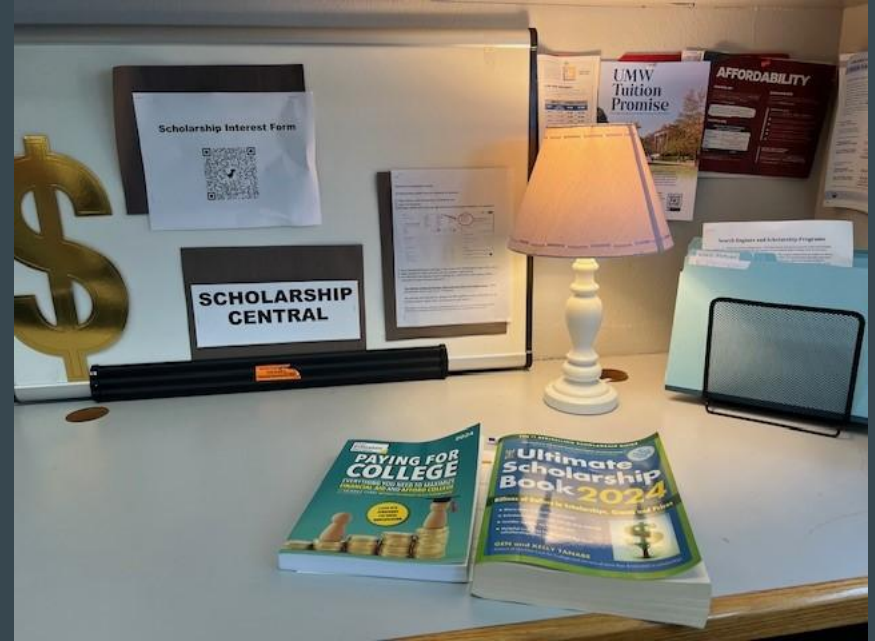
1. Log into Naviance.
2. In the header click the *colleges* tab.
3. Under the *Scholarships & Money* tab, click on the 3rd link (*Scholarship Search*).



SCHOLARSHIPS (continued)

Juniors and Seniors can explore Scholarship Central in the Career Center. Students can also make an appointment with Mrs. Barnes, our College & Career Specialist, to discuss scholarships by emailing her at mkbarnes@fcps.edu.

Make sure you read Mrs. Barnes' weekly newsletter to keep up to date on many scholarship opportunities! Please note that there are scholarships not advertised in the newsletter based on gender and ethnicity that you can research in the career center.



SCHOLARSHIPS - SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- Military - If you have a parent who is currently in the military or has served in the military, you may be eligible for Yellow Ribbon Schools or the GI Bill.
- First Generation - If neither of your parents have attended college in the United States, you are considered a first generation student. Special scholarships are often available for first generation students.

Talk with your counselor or with Mrs. Barnes if you meet one of these definitions to see how you may be able to get more money for college!



LOANS & GRANTS: What is the FAFSA?

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance.

If you have a social security number, you can apply for help paying for college using the FAFSA.

The FAFSA should be completed during a student's senior year of high school.

Students can fill out the FAFSA at:

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>



LOANS & GRANTS: What is the VASA?

The VASA is the Virginia Alternative State Aid Application.

It is an alternative option to the FAFSA for students who are undocumented, DACA recipients, certain non-immigrants or are otherwise ineligible to complete the FAFSA application.

Students should fill out the VASA during their senior year of high school at:

<https://www.levelupvirginia.org/finance/financial-aid/vasa-application>



FILE YOUR 2025-26 VASA APP NOW!

How Financial Aid Works

Seniors fill out the FAFSA or VASA in the fall - including all colleges where you apply



Once accepted, colleges will access the FAFSA or VASA information to determine a financial aid package. The colleges will inform students what their financial aid package will be (how many loans/grants/work study etc.)



Students use that information to help make a decision about which college they will attend

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Attending Northern Virginia Community College for two years, than transferring to a four-year college, can save thousands of dollars. Guaranteed articulation agreements allow students to prepare to attend the four-year college of their choice in the state of Virginia.

School	GMU	VCU	JMU	UVA	VT	NOVA
Tuition*	\$6,700	\$7,821	\$6,546	\$8,931	\$7,333	\$2,226 - \$2,782.50

*per semester costs for avg. full-time student 2022-23)



McLean Student Services Can Help!

Let your counselor or Mrs. Barnes know if you have questions or need assistance with paying for college. We can point you in the right direction!

<https://mcleanhs.fcps.edu/student-services/staff>

