

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®



FOCUSED DATA FOR FINANCIAL AID & ENROLLMENT OFFICES



WHAT IS PROFILE?

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® is a financial aid application solution that helps institutions like yours make informed decisions earlier and distribute funds in a strategic way. It provides accurate, timely, and complete financial information and offers:

- ▶ **Rapid communication** with families about college affordability and early award estimates for applicants
- ▶ **A single online aid application** students can use to send their financial details and receive information on institutional aid
- ▶ **Information** that allows enrollment offices to address unique family circumstances

The fee for the initial PROFILE application and one college or program report is \$25. Additional reports are \$16. For students from low-income backgrounds, the College Board provides eight fee waivers that cover both the application and reporting fees for up to eight institutions.

Any first-year student whose parents live in the United States is considered for PROFILE fee waivers. Family income and assets, as reported on the PROFILE application, determine final eligibility. Domestic first-year students who are orphans and wards of the court under the age of 24 are automatically eligible.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PROFILE

In addition to financial aid, CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE can address many issues common to financial aid and enrollment offices, including:

▶ **Lowering discount rates**

In today's economic climate, a discount rate of even 40–50 percent can lead to institutional instability. PROFILE can help direct institutional funds in more strategic ways and lower the overall discount rate.

▶ **Increasing enrollment**

By creating equitable aid packages, PROFILE can help families who otherwise may feel they can't afford to attend college, accept and understand their aid package better.

▶ **Decreasing the number of financial aid appeals**

PROFILE helps prepare aid awards more effectively so lower-income families can afford college. PROFILE can also be used to determine adjustments to aid policies in order to deliver institutional aid where it's needed the most.

▶ **Supporting effective international recruitment**

For colleges and universities with institutional funds for international students, PROFILE helps distribute these often limited dollars. PROFILE can be used for any population subset, including international students.

▶ **Eliminating time-consuming, ineffective aid applications**

Institutional aid application is often an extremely manual process. PROFILE eliminates the need to develop, update, distribute, and process internal aid applications, freeing up staff to spend their time supporting students.

▶ **Delivering fast aid awards to early decision or early action students**

PROFILE is available three months earlier than the FAFSA each year, so a college can send out aid awards much earlier. PROFILE can be used for any segment, including ED/EA students.

▶ **Reducing dropouts and transfers due to finances**

PROFILE helps bring consistency in college costs from year to year without the need to overborrow, raising the likelihood that students will remain at the institution and graduate.