

SAE Institute Chicago – Financial Assistance Information

General Information

SAE Institute Chicago offers financial assistance to our students via Federal Student Aid to qualifying students as well as institutional financing. Eligibility for these programs is contingent upon a number of factors.

Federal Student Aid

SAE Institute Chicago participates in the following Federal Student Aid programs:

1. Federal Pell Grant - A federal grant for undergraduate students with financial need.
2. Subsidized Loan - A loan based on financial need for which the federal government generally pays the interest that accrues while the borrower is in an in-school, grace, or deferment status, and during certain periods of repayment under certain income-driven repayment plans.
3. Unsubsidized Loan – A loan for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status. Interest on unsubsidized loans accrues from the date of disbursement and continues throughout the life of the loan.
4. Parent PLUS Loan – A loan made by the U.S. Department of Education to graduate or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students. The borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status.

Institutional Financing

SAE Institute offers institutional financing for any remaining balance after FSA programs are taken into account. The length of repayment depends on the amount financed. It is typically between 12 and 60 months. Interest rates of 3%, 5%, and 7% are available through Tuition Options. Please contact the Financial Aid Department for more information.

VA Benefits

SAE Institute accepts education benefits offered by the Department of Veteran Affairs. SAE Institute is not involved in determining VA education benefits. The Education Call Center should be contacted 1-888-442-4551 regarding any questions regarding eligibility.

Applying for Federal Student Aid

All students may apply for Federal Student Aid by electronically submitting the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The application at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The federal school code for SAE Institute Chicago is 038303. Students will need to create a FSA ID at www.fsaed.ed.gov in order to log in and electronically sign the FAFSA. Depending on the time of year, there will be applications for two award years. Both should be completed in order to assist the Financial Aid Department award in the most beneficial manner to the student.

Upon completing the FAFSA(s), a Student Aid Report (SAR) will be sent to the student. This information will have your estimated eligibility for Federal Student Aid. The Department of Education provides a student's maximum eligibility for an award year but that may not be what the student is eligible for based on the student's current enrollment status and past financial aid history.

Both the Federal Pell Grant and Direct Loans have limits. A student will lose eligibility upon reaching these limits although the SAR may state something different. The Financial Aid Department will alert the student of any potential financial aid issues before issuing an award letter.

Independent/Dependent status

Independent students are not required to provide parent information when completing the FAFSA. Dependent students are required to provide parent information when completing the FAFSA. Please see this website: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/dependency> to determine if you need to provide your parent(s) information on the FAFSA. If you are unable to provide parent information for any reason please see the Financial Aid Department.

Verification

The Central Processing System (CPS) will select FAFSAs for verification. Verification is a process that requires an institution to verify specific items on the FAFSAs prior to awarding any Federal Student Aid.

The campus will provide the verification worksheet to a student. The student may be required to provide a tax return transcript from the IRS for a specific calendar year. Dependent students may need to provide tax information for their parents as well.

This requirement to provide tax information can be avoided by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) when it is offered at the “Financial Information” section of the FAFSA. There should be a “Link to IRS” button when you get to this section of the FAFSA. This allows you to pull information directly from the IRS into your application. It is highly recommended that this tool is used at the time of submission. This can save a lot of time with the financial aid process.

If the IRS DRT is unavailable or unsuccessful, it is recommended that the student request a copy of their tax **return** transcript. Please do **not** request a copy of a tax **account** transcript, it is not valid for FSA purposes. This information can be requested at no cost at the official IRS website: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>.

Verification documents must be submitted within 30 days of the FAFSA submission date. Failure to provide requested documents in a timely manner may result in delayed disbursement of Federal Student Aid or loss of eligibility.