

FINANCIAL AID NOTIFICATION (FAN) AWARD LETTER

What is my Cost of Attendance (COA) and why is it important?

COA is an estimate, provided by the Financial Aid Office, of what it might cost that individual student to attend WCU for the academic year (estimated cost includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, personal and miscellaneous expenses). There are a variety of factors that influence a student's COA such as influenced by the student's state residency, enrollment status, housing status and other reasons.

What is an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and why is it important?

EFC is calculated from information on the student's FAFSA. This includes student and parental income (taxable and un-taxable), net assets, the number of family members in the household, and the number currently enrolled in college. This number is used to calculate how much financial aid you are eligible to receive.

What is financial "Need" and how is it calculated?

Cost of Attendance (COA) minus the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) equals "Need." Financial need will vary from school to school because costs will differ from school to school.

What is "Non-need-based aid"?

Non-need-based aid is financial aid that is not based on your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). To determine how much non-need-based aid you can get, the school takes your cost of attendance and subtracts any financial aid you've already been awarded.

How is my total Financial Aid Package calculated?

Your total Financial Aid Package includes the amount of "Need" plus the amount of "Non-need-based-aid" a student has. This amount may not exceed your total COA.

How will I know when my FAN Letter is available?

You should receive an email with instructions on how to access your aid package via myWCU. Access the myWCU portal by signing in to your myWCU account. Select "Awards" in the Financial Aid Section of the Student Self-Service. Select the "Aid Year" to display your aid. You may view and print your FAN by selecting "View Award Notification."