

# HOW YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID IS CALCULATED

## Estimated Cost

While actual costs will vary from student to student, James Sprunt Community College uses average cost figures when determining your eligibility for need-based aid. This average is calculated according to dependent or independent status. The instructional and general fee component is based on 12 credit hours enrollment for Fall and Spring semesters. Other expenses such as books and supplies, transportation and an allowance for housing, personal and miscellaneous expenses are included in determining a cost of attendance figure.

The chart below lists examples of a student's expense budget for Fall and Spring semesters. These budget figures are averages and your actual cost may be different.

**This is not the amount owed to James Sprunt.**

2010-2011	Independent with dependent(s)	Dependent living with parents
Tuition and Fees	\$1,414	\$1,414
Books and Supplies	\$1,500	\$1,500
Transportation	\$1,728	\$1,728
Personal/Miscellaneous	\$1,500	\$1,500
Housing	\$5,525	\$2,833
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,667</b>	<b>\$8,975</b>

## Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)

Your EFC is based on the data you provided on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It is calculated using a federally mandated formula, which considers taxable and non-taxable income, assets and family members in college. If you are considered a dependent student, parental data also is included.

## Outside Aid

Federal regulations require you to disclose, and the Office of Financial Aid to include, outside awards in your financial aid package. As a result, the Office of Financial Aid may reduce the financial aid offered to you at James Sprunt. Federal Pell Grant funds are not reduced if you receive a scholarship or other education-based award.

## Financial Need

Your financial need is the amount that remains after your EFC and other student resources are subtracted from the estimated cost of attendance.

If the resulting calculation is a positive figure, then you are considered to have financial need. The Office of Financial Aid attempts to meet your financial need by providing access to federal and state funds.

If your combined EFC and other resources are higher than the estimated cost figure, you are not eligible for need-based aid, but may qualify for low-interest educational loans.

## Change in Financial Circumstances

The Office of Financial Aid recognizes that a sudden change in family income or an unavoidable expense can have a direct impact on your ability to continue your education. The Office of Financial Aid can consider those changes and re-evaluate your eligibility for financial assistance. In order for your application to be reviewed for special circumstances, you will be asked to complete a "Special Circumstances" form and provide documentation to support your request. Contact the financial aid office to see if your circumstances qualify. Additional assistance will be based on availability of funds.

## Packaging Your Financial Aid

Since you will be the primary beneficiary of your college education; your package will contain self-help types of aid -- loans and/or Federal Work Study eligibility. You also may receive gift types of aid (grants or scholarships) if you demonstrate sufficient need and funds are available. Gift aid does not have to be repaid. The Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant and Federal Work Study are offered to eligible students on a first-applied, first-considered basis until funds are exhausted.