
Where to Find Financial Aid for Career Training

When it comes to financial aid for motivated candidates looking to improve their marketable job skills and build a career, there are a number of potential sources. But where should you start?



Federal Student Aid (an Office of the U.S. Department of Education) is one of the best funding sources for individuals looking to acquire skills that are currently in demand and provide higher wages. But other funding sources can be just as fruitful, and below is a summary of major sources:

- **Title IV**
- **Aid for Veterans and Their Families**
- **Work Study Jobs**
- **Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**

Title IV Funding

Federal Student Aid is responsible for managing the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Title IV programs provide various grant and loan options to students attending college or career school. The following are just a few of these options:

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Federal Pell Grants— unlike a loan, a Pell Grant does not have to be repaid. These are Grants usually awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or a professional degree.

FSEOG Grants — reserved for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need, the FSEOG program is administered directly by the **financial aid office** at each participating school and is therefore called “campus-based” aid.

TEACH Grants—require recipients to take certain kinds of classes in order to get the grant, and then do a certain kind of job (typically teaching in an area of high need) to keep the grant from turning into a loan.

LOANS

Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans — available to eligible students to help cover the cost of higher education at a four-year college or university, community college, or trade, career, or technical school. Direct Subsidized Loans are provided only to individuals who demonstrate financial need, and the Department of Education pays the interest on the loan.

Perkins Loans - low-interest federal student loans for undergraduate and graduate students with exceptional financial need. Schools generally serve as the lender, and the interest rate on the loan is set at just 3%.



Aid for Veterans and Their Families

Title IV also provides Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants, as well as Aid for Military Families.

Like other federal grants, Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants provide money to college or career school students to help pay their education expenses. However, Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants have special eligibility criteria.

Both the federal government and nonprofit organizations offer educational aid to veterans, future military personnel, active duty personnel, or those related to veterans or active duty personnel. ROTC Scholarships and VA Education Benefits are just two examples.

Work Study Jobs

Federal Work-Study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student's course of study.

Here's a quick overview of Federal Work-Study:

- It provides part-time employment while you are enrolled in school.
- It's available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students with financial need.
- It's available to full-time or part-time students.
- It's administered by schools participating in the Federal Work-Study Program. Check with your school's financial aid office to find out if your school participates.

Workforce Investment Act

The purpose of this Act is to assist individuals in developing workforce opportunities, accessing training, and managing their career choices through access to information and career-oriented services.

The WIA also helps identify specific job preparation needs and assists with securing training to fill skill gaps which may be a barrier to career success.

Funds are typically used to cover the cost of tuition and books. The amount of financial aid for tuition and books varies depending on the length of training program, up to a maximum of \$9000 for an approved two year course of study.

How to Take Advantage of Financial Aid

Questions about your eligibility for career training financial aid? Contact CCI Training Center (www.cci-training.com) for more information on funding options, our programs and certifications, and our blended learning options that can help put you on a successful career path.

SOURCES:

naolweb.com; studentaid.ed.gov



www.cci-training.com