

Financial Aid

How to Apply for a Student Loan

DVC participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program. Direct Loans are provided by the U.S. Government, have low interest rates, and do not require credit checks or collateral. Direct loans also provide a variety of deferment options and extended repayment terms. All Direct Loans are either subsidized or unsubsidized. Under the **subsidized** loans, the government pays the interest while the student is in school. To apply for a student loan, please follow the steps below:

1. **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at WWW.FAFSA.GOV** . The FAFSA will help determine if a student has a demonstrated financial need and if he/she is eligible for other types of financial aid. For further instruction on how to complete the FAFSA, please refer to the instructional flyer “How to Apply for Financial Aid”.

2. **Check Missing Information Letter on the InSite Portal.**

Approximately 2-3 weeks after you submit the FAFSA, DVC’s Financial Aid Office will send a follow up email to your InSite Portal student email account with further instructions and a list of requirements that you have to complete in order to continue with the application process. Follow the instructions, print and complete the missing forms as listed on the Missing Information Letter.

3. **Attend a student loan workshop.**

In addition to the Missing Information Letter, students who are interested in applying for a student loan are also required to attend a mandatory loan workshop. Students will learn about the policies and requirements for the student loan program and receive a copy of the loan application form during the workshop. To register for upcoming loan workshops, visit our website at www.dvc.edu/financialaid. On the left hand side, click the “**Student loans**” tab and scroll down to the “**How to Apply**” section where you will find a link to the registration form.

4. **Submit all documents.**

Once you have completed the documents listed on the Missing Information Letter as well as loan specific requirements as discussed on the loan workshop, you may submit your documents to the financial aid office during drop in hours.

