

Welcome UCCS Class of 2025!

On behalf of the UCCS Office of Financial Aid, Student Employment, and Scholarships, I would like to welcome you to the Fall 2021 semester edition of the UCCS Financial Aid Newsletter, **Behind the Money**. We publish this newsletter each semester in order to give you the most up to date information about what's happening and provide helpful tips for navigating the financial aid at UCCS.

Our office mission is to assist students and their families in financing their UCCS education. We do this by **providing quality customer service**, **financial advisement**, **and good fiscal resources to all of our students**.

The last year and a half has been a wild ride of ups and downs with ever-changing environments in all areas of our life from home to school to work. I am happy to share that you always have one constant: **our office is always here to assist you!**

Whether it is via office visit, email conversations, or a Teams/Zoom appointment, I promise that our commitment to assist you is never going to change. Remember, **applying for financial aid is something you will do every year**, so we are with you from your first day at UCCS until you graduate!

(Continued on page 2)

Welcome Class of 2025 (continued)

We continue to suggest using our upload process for submitting documents whenever possible. UCCS Financial Aid provides a **secure file upload system** to submit your information and safeguard your personal data. Visit https://finaid.uccs.edu/upload for more information. Remember to **check the myUCCS portal and your UCCS email often** to ensure you always know what is happening with our office and the other UCCS campus departments!

Additionally, I hope you will also follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> to ensure you have the most up to date financial aid information.

I wish you a most successful 2021-2022 academic year and all the best in your future educational and financial endeavors. Remember to **#Protect the Pride!** Stay safe and stay healthy!

Jevita C Cogers
Senior Executive Director
UCCS Financial Aid Office



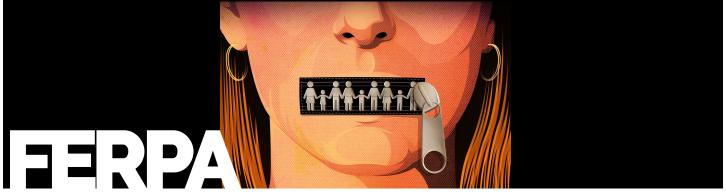
The 2022-23 FAFSA opens on October 1, 2021! That's right...the financial aid process for the 2022-2023 school year will begin this October! In order to maximize your financial aid opportunities, we encourage all students to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after it is released in October.

Remember that the FAFSA determines federal grant opportunities, but is also needed for state and institutional grants, all federal student loans, work study, and even some scholarships!

So <u>do your FAFSA</u> in October! It really is one of the most important (and easiest) things you can do for your financial aid!



The 2022-23 UCCS Scholarship Application opens on December 1, 2021! You will have from that date until the Priority Deadline of March 1, 2022 to apply for most UCCS scholarship opportunities for the 2022-2023 aid year, but why wait? Don't miss out and apply early! Complete the scholarship application in December! You can find an easy-to-use How To guide on how to apply here.



Understanding the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, known in the industry as FERPA, is a federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records. The law prohibits educational institutions from disclosing "personally identifiable information in education records" without the written consent of an eligible student. An eligible student is one who has reached age 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level.

What does this mean for UCCS financial aid students? In short, this means that **the financial aid department cannot discuss the details of a student's financial aid with anyone except the individual student (that includes parents, spouses, or other family members) without the student's direct permission.** Permission is granted in the myUCCS Portal via the FERPA Consent to Release, a quick form that allows the student to list anyone they wish to have access to their information and to speak on behalf of the student. Instructions on how to authorize the FERPA Consent to Release in the myUCCS Portal can be found <a href="https://example.com/here-example.com/here

Financial Aid for Summer 2022



Summer 2022 may seem far away, but remember the amount you borrow during the fall and spring semesters may affect what is available to you in the upcoming summer term!

If you are offered and you accept the annual maximum limits of loans for the fall and spring semesters, you will not be awarded these funds for summer and your summer aid limited.

If you are planning to attend summer classes, it is important for you to plan ahead and manage your financial aid wisely in order to have aid available to you for summer.

Borrowing?Understand loans.

It is important to **review all the terms and conditions of any student loan** you may be considering.

Remember, a loan must be repaid. Selecting a loan without the best terms and conditions could cost you much more in the long run.

We want to make getting information about different loan options easier. Check out our loan comparison chart, and you can also check out our student loan How To Guides any time!



August 13 First Fall 2021 Financial Aid Disbursement (funds released to

UCCS)

August 15 First e-bills available in the myUCCS portal (amount due after

financial aid is received)

August 20 Short-term loans available

August 23 First day of UCCS regular classes (GPS starts 8/19)

August 29 Last day to add full semester course without instructor

permission

September 6 Labor Day Holiday – UCCS Offices closed

September 7 Labor Day Holiday – no classes, UCCS offices open

September 9 <u>Census Date/Tuition Due Date</u>

This is the last day to register (for regular semester courses). Complete withdrawals and course drops through this date will be refunded at 100% tuition.

September 10 Financial aid awards may be adjusted based on

enrollment.

October 1 The FAFSA for the Fall 2022/Spring 2023/Summer 2023

available at **studentaid.gov**.

Federal Direct Loan origination fees adjust

October 29 Last day to drop/withdraw without special permission

from college Dean

November 20 Short-term loans due

Nov 24 – 28 Thanksgiving Holiday (no classes, offices open

Wednesday, closed Thurs & Fri)

December 1 UCCS 2022-2023 <u>Scholarship application</u>

available in the myUCCS portal

Spring 2021 Student Employment

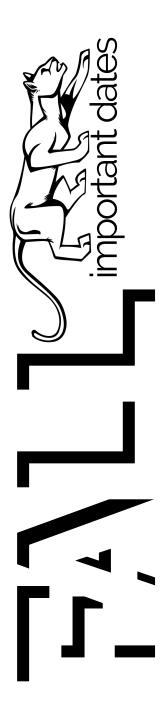
jobs begin Posting on SEAN

December 17 Fall 2020 Commencement

December 18 Semester Ends

December 24-30 Winter Break (no classes; UCCS offices

closed)



Graduating in Fall?

If you are an undergraduate student who plans to graduate in December, your financial aid will be adjusted this semester due to your upcoming graduation. Contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your fall aid!