Financial Aid Myths DEBUNKED

"My grades aren't good enough." FALSE
Though higher GPAs help with receiving academic scholarships, most federal student aid programs are based on need, not merit. Boom.

"I have to wait until my parents file their taxes." FALSE
Beginning October 2016, students can submit income info from an earlier tax year. You will be able to submit your FAFSA as early as Oct. 1 every year. Get 'er done.

"My parents make too much money." FALSE
Surprise: There is no income cutoff to qualify for financial aid. Most of us aren't psychics—the only sure-fire way to know what you're eligible for is to apply. So, APPLY!

"The form is too hard to fill out." FALSE
Filling out the FAFSA takes 30 minutes, tops. Plus, there's step-by-step instructions, making it easier than ever. And let’s face it, you’ve spent too much time scrolling through Tumblr already.

IT REALLY IS WORTH IT. Let’s get started ...

FAFSA.gov

BONUS CONTENT unlocked

Can I really afford Florida Tech?
Estimate your costs using our Net Price Calculator. fit.studentaidcalculator.com (Full-time, first-time U.S. students only)

WHAT MAKES FLORIDA TECH AFFORDABLE?

SCHOLARSHIPS
Merit-based academic scholarship awards are based on prior academic performance and are determined at the time of admission.

GRANTS
Grants are typically need-based and they come from the state, federal government and colleges themselves; you don’t pay back grants.

LOANS
A loan is a form of aid you can borrow that you pay back with interest after graduation.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY
Work-study provides part-time jobs for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses.

PAYMENT PLAN
You can pay your tuition and fees in convenient monthly installments using Florida Tech’s Panther Payment Plan.

ROTC
The scholarship covers full tuition, plus money for books and a monthly stipend. Florida Tech offers room and board scholarships to ROTC students.

FAFSA Checklist
Here’s what you need:
1. Social Security Number
2. Alien Registration Number (if not a U.S. citizen)
3. Recent Federal Income Tax Returns
4. Bank Statements and Investments
5. Records of Untaxed Income (if applicable)
6. Florida Tech’s FAFSA School Code: 001469

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Melbourne, FL 32901-6975
Ph: 321-674-8070
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www.fit.edu/financialaid

Florida Tech offers scholarships for FIRST Robotics, Eagle and Girl Scout Gold Awards and athletics.

Sources: studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/announcements/fafsa-changes; studentaid.gov/resources

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