

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS 2010–2011 FINANCIAL AID INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

CSS PROFILE #002815

Admission and Financial Aid application filing deadlines:

Early Decision Round I—November 15, 2009

Early Decision Round II—January 15, 2010

Regular Decision—January 15, 2010

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Note: Due to the high demand for limited financial aid resources, application deadlines are strictly observed. Late applicants risk reduced or no financial assistance from the College for two academic years.

1. Skidmore Grant Assistance: Eligibility is based on financial need as determined by the Financial Aid Office. Skidmore College requires completion of the College Board's PROFILE. State, Federal and College financial aid eligibility will be estimated based on the data reported on the PROFILE. Financial need is calculated based on family demographic (household size, siblings enrolled as undergraduates, etc.) and financial (income, assets, etc.) information as reported on the PROFILE.

2. Financial Aid Award Letters: Will be mailed to the permanent addresses of admitted prospective students with the admission decision.

3. Skidmore Grant Amounts: Ranged from \$2,000 to \$52,000 in 2008-2009.

Skidmore College Policies in determining Skidmore Grant Amounts

1. Parents enrolled in higher education and/or any siblings in graduate or professional schools will not be included in the number of family members enrolled in postsecondary education.

2. No allowance is provided for tuition paid for siblings in private elementary or secondary schools, for depreciation, or for business or capital losses as deductions from total income.

3. An offer made by parents that is in excess of the College Scholarship Service's calculation of parental contribution will be accepted by the College.

4. The value of all assets is reviewed for accuracy and will be adjusted accordingly if the assets appear to be under-reported based on normal investment yields and/or average known current market values.

5. Parents' financial information is required for students under 24 years of age. Skidmore will not assume any additional responsibility when a student marries or declares independence after the first aid application or initial enrollment, whichever comes first.

6. Those students who enroll without Skidmore grant aid normally are first eligible to receive such aid, if need is demonstrated, in their junior year.

Please read the College catalog, available online at www.skidmore.edu, for more details.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS SECTION for parents divorced, separated, re-married or never married

DEFINITION OF "PARENTS" SECTION

When answering questions on the PROFILE or FAFSA the word "parents" has several meanings:

1. Natural or adoptive parents both living and married to each other, or
2. Natural or adoptive parents who were never married to each other or are separated or divorced or
3. A parent who is widowed.

Understanding which parents information to provide: Answer the questions (about parents) for the parent you lived with most in the last 12 months. This person is referred to as the **custodial parent**. Your application materials should be filed as follows:

- a. The custodial parent should complete parent information on the Profile application.
- b. The noncustodial parent (the natural or adoptive parent who does not reside in the same household as the student) should complete the Noncustodial Parent's Profile and submit it to CSS.

c. If the parent you lived with the most in the last 12 months has married or remarried, you must also include your stepparent's information (even if the parent and stepparent were not married in 2009). If you are reporting information about your stepparent, note that whenever the word "parents" is used on the Profile application it also means your stepparent.

STEPS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID FOR THE 2010–11 ACADEMIC YEAR

1. Check "yes" on the Skidmore admission application to the question asking: Are you applying for financial aid? This response will

allow our office to track your aid application, make sure you have it complete, send a reminder if items are missing and determine if you are eligible for financial aid.

2. Note: Social Security number ~ while not required on the Admission application, the student is required to use it in applying for financial aid and delays in matching your financial and admission application will occur if you do not provide it on your admissions application

3. Complete the College Board Profile at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp>. You will need a valid credit card.

4. If applicable, the Business/Farm Supplement can be downloaded from College Board, for paper completion. The form can also be found on the Financial Aid website under Forms and Documents.

5. The non-custodial parent is required to complete a non-custodial Profile form at <https://nncprofile.collegeboard.com/>.

6. New York, Vermont and Rhode Island residents must apply for a State Scholarship/Grant. Your initial application for applying for these funds is to complete the FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov) after January 10, 2010.

- New York State Grant Instructions /Application: www.hesc.com for Tuition Assistance (TAP)
- Vermont Grant Instructions/Application: www.vsac.com
- Rhode Island Grant Instructions/ Application: www.riheaa.org/borrowers/grants

Follow-up Steps:

• The college verifies and updates estimated data to actual. Data verified include: taxable and untaxed income, assets, household size and college enrollment once prospective students are admitted and enrolled. Be prepared to submit requested documentation such as income tax returns, W2's and statements of household size and enrollment verifications from sibling undergraduate colleges. Difference from reported data will result in adjusted financial aid awards.

• In order to receive Federal loans, work-study and grants, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must also be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.