



2026-2027 Returning Student Financial Aid Timeline

Current CIM students applying for a NEW PROGRAM for fall 2026 should follow the APPLICANT timeline, which has earlier due dates and additional items to submit.

May 1, 2026

2026-2027 FAFSA

- Students who wish to be considered for any federal student aid (federal grants, loans, and/or work study) must submit the FAFSA annually as all federal aid eligibility is year specific.
- The CSS PROFILE is not required for subsequent years in the same program.
- After submitting the FAFSA, be sure to review the **FAFSA Submission Summary** that will be available 1-3 days later from the FAFSA processor.
- Note that the FAFSA uses prior-prior year federal tax return data, so for the 2026-27 FAFSA it is looking back to the **2024 federal tax return**.

Helpful FAFSA links:

- [How to fill out the FAFSA form](#) – short demo YouTube video, details on how to create a studentaid.gov account, clarify which tax return form data is needed, and much more.
- [Who Is My FAFSA Parent?](#) – Identifies which parent(s) will be a required information contributor on the FAFSA for undergraduate students.

*Parent information is not a part of the FAFSA for graduate students.

Early June 2026

Students will receive renewal 2026-2027 aid information after Spring 2026 grades are posted and [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) has been reviewed. CIM Scholarship/Grant* awards will auto-renew/auto-accept but all federal loans and/or work study requires active student acceptance to be processed. **Hardship Grants and Unrestricted Grants are non-renewable.*

June 30, 2026

- This is the priority deadline for all 2026-27 renewal aid to be accepted/declined on Populi. Failure to confirm your renewal aid may result in loss of the award(s).
- Finish any incomplete aid documents as requested by the Financial Aid Office. If you are the recipient of any outside or private scholarships, be sure to inform the Financial Aid Office in writing via the **External Aid Scholarship Information Form** (26-27 form will be linked in STUDIO in May 2026) so they may be included in your aid file, as required.
- Aid will not be credited (disbursed) to the student tuition account until all required documents are completed.
- If you have summer travel and/or festivals planned, make every effort to complete all aid documents BEFORE you leave.