The Cost of Attendance (COA) is the total average amount it will cost you to go to school stated as a yearly figure, but it is not your bill. Direct Expenses are an average of what you would be charged and will need to pay to Mines. Indirect Expenses are things you will need to account for, but you will not pay to Mines.

COA includes tuition and fees; room and board (or a housing and food allowance); and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees and personal expenses. It can also include dependent care, rental or purchase of a personal computer, costs related to a disability and reasonable costs for eligible study-abroad programs. The cost of attendance can affect the maximum amount of aid you can borrow.

**DIRECT EXPENSES**

**Tuition:** This figure is based on the full-time enrollment of an undergraduate student.

**College Opportunity Fund (COF):** For Colorado residents the tuition figure takes the COF into account. Do not subtract the COF from the tuition figure.

**Fees:** This figure includes mandatory fees only; it does not include the orientation fee or student health insurance plan. For additional information on fees for the current academic year: [inside.mines.edu/2018-2019](inside.mines.edu/2018-2019).

**Room and Board:** Average figure for a student living on campus with a meal plan. Your actual charges will be based on your living arrangement and meal plan choice. Students who live off campus or with parent(s) may have a lower budget which may affect the amounts and types of aid awarded. This is an indirect expense for students who live off campus or with parent(s).

**INDIRECT EXPENSES**

**Books & Supplies, Personal Expenses, Transportation:** These expenses are not payable to Mines. You can use financial aid to cover these expenses. It is anticipated that students will work over the summer to earn enough funding to cover some of these expenses. These numbers are averages for students and your actual expenses may vary.

**Loan Fees:** Average of origination fees charged on student loans. This money is not payable to Mines; the loan fee is deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement you receive. This means the money you receive will be less than the amount you actually borrow. You are responsible for repaying the entire amount you borrowed and not just the amount you received. For more information, visit: [studentloans.gov](studentloans.gov).
Academic Year
The academic year at Mines begins on the first day of the fall semester and ends on the last day of the spring semester. The 2019-2020 Academic Year begins August 19 and ends May 8.

Award Year
The award year at Mines is defined as fall, spring, and summer terms. The award year is related to the FAFSA used for funding. A new FAFSA is required for each award year. Students must complete the 2019-2020 FAFSA for aid during the fall 2019, spring 2020, and summer 2020 terms.

Direct PLUS Loan
A loan made by the U.S. Department of Education to graduate or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students. The borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status.

Entrance Counseling
A mandatory information session that takes place online before you receive your first federal student loan that explains your responsibilities and rights as a student borrower.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
This is the number that's used to determine your eligibility for federal student financial aid. This number results from the financial information you provide in your FAFSA® form, the application for federal student aid. Your EFC is reported to you on your Student Aid Report (SAR).

FSA ID
The FSA ID is a username and password combination that serves as a student’s or parent’s identifier to allow access to personal information in various U.S. Department of Education systems and acts as a digital signature on some online forms.

Master Promissory Note
A binding legal document that you must sign before you get a federal student loan. The MPN can be used to make one or more loans for one or more academic years (up to 10 years).

Subsidized Loan
An undergraduate student loan based on financial need for which the federal government generally pays the interest that accrues while the borrower is in an in-school, grace, or deferment status.

Unsubsidized Loan
A student loan for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status. Interest on unsubsidized loans accrues from the date of disbursement and continues throughout the life of the loan.

Verification
The process your school uses to confirm that the data reported on your FAFSA form is accurate. The types of documentation accepted by Mines is defined by the U.S. Department of Education. Students can see verification documentation requirements on Trailhead.

Office of Financial Aid
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