AGENDA

01 What is Financial Aid and Myths
02 What is the FAFSA® form and what it offers
03 Where to find the FAFSA ® form
04 Who should complete the FAFSA® form
05 What is Needed and Mistakes to Avoid On The FAFSA® Form
06 Financial Aid Tools and Resources
WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID
FINDING FINANCIAL AID

GOVERNMENT
- Federal Government
- State Government

INSTITUTION
- College
- University

FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS
- Private Foundations
- Professional Organization
- Service Organization

EMPLOYMENT & COMPANIES
- Employers
- Private Companies
MYTHS ABOUT FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

― THE FORM IS TOO HARD TO FILL OUT.‖

Reality: The FAFSA® Form is easier than ever, especially if you fill it out online at www.fafsa.gov

― ONLY STUDENTS WITH GOOD GRADES GET FINANCIAL AID.‖

Reality: While in high school, your grades are not a factor in qualifying for federal aid, however, once in college you will have to maintain a certain GPA to receive aid.

― MY PARENTS MAKE TOO MUCH MONEY, SO I WON’T QUALIFY FOR AID.‖

Reality: There is no income cutoff to qualify for federal student aid.
WHAT IS THE FAFSA® FORM AND WHAT IT OFFERS
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WHY SHOULD YOU COMPLETE THE FAFSA® FORM?

Your college uses your FAFSA® data to determine your federal aid eligibility. Many states and colleges use FAFSA® data to award their own aid.
2021-22 FAFSA® FORM

The 2021–22 FAFSA® form is now AVAILABLE!

For more information, visit FAFSA.GOV
WHEN TO COMPLETE YOUR FAFSA®

MUST FILE AS

High School Senior Year
and every year in college.
2021-22 FAFSA® UPDATES

The 2021-22 FAFSA form launched October 1, 2020. This year’s form features updates to improve user experience.
Students may be eligible for three types of Federal Student Aid once completing the FAFSA® Form.
WHERE TO FIND THE FAFSA® FORM
WHERE TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA® FORM

fafsa.gov
ENHANCEMENTS

StudentAid.gov
INTEGRATED FAFSA FORM INTO STUDENTAID.GOV

fafsa.gov
LAUNCHED MOBILE RESPONSIVE SITE

myStudentAid
RELEASED MYSTUDENTAID MOBILE APP
WHO SHOULD COMPLETE THE FAFSA® FORM
WHO SHOULD COMPLETE THE FAFSA®?

- STUDENTS ATTENDING A COLLEGE
- STUDENTS ATTENDING GRADUATE SCHOOL
- ADULTS ATTENDING/RETURNING TO A COLLEGE
WHO SHOULD COMPLETE THE FAFSA®?

- Students pursing vocational credentials
- Students enrolled in online courses
- Students pursuing certificates
WHO SHOULD COMPLETE THE FAFSA®

CITIZENSHIP
• be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen;
• have a valid Social Security number (with the exception of students from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau)

ENROLLMENT
• be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program;
• be enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for Direct Loan Program funds

STUDENT
• having a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a General Educational Development (GED) certificate
• completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law; or
• enrolling in an eligible career pathway program and meeting one of the "ability-to-benefit" alternatives can apply in certain situations including for non-U.S. citizens, students with criminal convictions, and students with intellectual disabilities

REGISTERED FOR SERVICE
• be registered with Selective Service, if you’re a male (you must register between the ages of 18 and 25)
WHAT IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA® FORM
Info

**THINGS YOU NEED**

Make sure you have the following information to fill out the FAFSA® form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THINGS YOU’LL NEED TO FILL OUT THE FAFSA® FORM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>6</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USERNAME AND PASSWORD (FSA ID)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 TAX RECORDS INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Automatically transfer tax info with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECORDS OF YOUR UNTAXED INCOME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECORDS OF YOUR ASSETS (MONEY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF SCHOOLS YOU’RE INTERESTED IN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOW TO CREATE FSA ID

1. Visit Studentaid.gov
2. May enter your email address
3. Create a username
4. Create a password
5. Enter your name, date of birth, and Social Security number
FAFSA® APPLICATION PROCESS
FAFSA® APPLICATION PROCESS

**ONE**

Student completes the FAFSA® and signs with FSA ID

**TWO**

FAFSA® is processed by FSA; Student receives a Student Aid Report (SAR); College receives information if listed on FAFSA®

**THREE**

College reviews information and assembles award package for the student

**FOUR**

Student reviews award package; compares to other award letters; student determines which college to attend
WHAT’S NEXT?

WHEN WILL YOU RECEIVE YOUR FINANCIAL AID?

Each school has a different schedule for paying out financial aid. If you’re wondering when you’ll get your financial aid, check with your school.
SCHOOL SELECTION

SELECTING ONE SCHOOL
This is a mistake unless you are applying to only one college or already know where you’re going to school.

PRIVATE LISTING
Colleges can’t see the other schools you’ve added, so you should add ALL colleges you are considering to your FAFSA® form, even if you aren’t sure whether you’ll apply or be accepted. You can add up to 10 schools at a time.

ADD UP TO 10
It doesn’t hurt your application to add more schools. In fact, you don’t even have to remove schools you later decide not to apply to. If you don’t end up applying or getting accepted to a school, the school can just disregard your FAFSA® form. But you can remove schools at any time to make room for new schools.
DEPENDENCY STATUS

INDEPENDENT STATUS

An independent student is one of the following:
✓ at least 24 years old;
✓ married;
✓ a graduate or professional student;
✓ a veteran or a member of the armed forces;
✓ an orphan or a ward of the court;
✓ someone with legal dependents other than a spouse;
✓ an emancipated minor;
✓ someone who is homeless at risk of being homeless; or
✓ legal guardianship.

DEPENDENT STATUS

A dependent student does not meet any of the criteria for an independent student and must report information about his/her parent(s) on the FAFSA® form.
IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL (IRS DRT)

The IRS DRT has the fastest, most accurate way to transfer your tax information into your FAFSA® application. You will be able to review your information prior to submission.

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT)

EASY
Transfer info with the click of a button.

FAST
Instantly retrieve your info.

ACCURATE
Correctly fill in your info.

NOTE: You will know that your federal tax return information has been successfully transferred because the words “Transferred from the IRS” will display in place of the IRS information in your FAFSA form.
MISTAKES TO AVOID ON FAFSA® FORM

Common mistakes made while completing the FAFSA® Form
COMPLETE FAFSA® AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

AVAILABLE FINANCIAL AID
Some Financial Aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis

AVAILABLE FUNDS
Many states and colleges can run out of money early

DEADLINES
Although, your school’s application deadline may be later, you should get your FAFSA® completed as soon as possible and prior to earliest FAFSA® deadline to avoid any roadblocks

PRIOR - PRIOR YEAR TAXES
The 2021-2022 FAFSA® Form requires 2019 tax information
CHECK FOR THE CORRECT WEBSITE

ONE OFFICIAL WEBSITE

The official FAFSA® website is fafsa.gov

NEVER PAY TO COMPLETE

The application is free. You never have to pay to complete the FAFSA® Form. If you’re asked to provide credit card information, you are not on the official government website.
NOT READING DEFINITIONS CAREFULLY

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS (HOUSEHOLD SIZE)

There are specific definitions and instructions that tell you who to count within your household size and parent household size.

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN COLLEGE

Enter the number of people in you or your parents' household who will attend college at the same time as you. Do not forget to include yourself. However, do not include your parents in this number, even if they will be in college.

NET WORTH OF INVESTMENTS

There are specific guidelines to determine net worth and the type of investments to consider.
SUBMITTING INCORRECT INFORMATION

PARENT VS. STUDENT INFORMATION

Many parents may be assisting their student by filling out the FAFSA® Form but should be mindful that it is a student application.

DOES NOT MATCH FSA ID INFORMATION

After you create an FSA ID, your information (name, Social Security number, date of birth) is sent to the Social Security Administration to be verified. If you then enter a different name, Social Security number, and/or date of birth on the FAFSA® form, you’ll receive an error message. This is often the result of a typo or mixing up student information and parent information.
NOT SIGNING THE FAFSA® FORM

Submitting your FAFSA®

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE
You must sign your FAFSA® form with your FSA ID and submit it.
Your parent will also need to sign with their parent FSA ID or your application will be incomplete.

MAIL IN SIGNATURE PAGE
If you are not able to sign with your FSA ID, there is an option to mail a signature page.

CHECK SUBMISSION CONFIRMATION
If you would like confirmation that your FAFSA® form has been submitted, you can check your status immediately after you submit your FAFSA® form online.
THE FEDERAL STUDENT AID TOOLS & RESOURCES
FEDERAL STUDENT AID TOOLS & RESOURCES

SOCIAL MEDIA
@FederalStudentAid
@FAFSA
@FederalStudentAid

STUDENTAID.GOV

STUDENTAID.GOV/CORONAVIRUS

EMAIL ANYTIME

CHAT WITH A LIVE AGENT

CALL US 1-800-4FED-AID
1-800-433-3243

Youtube.com/FederalStudentAid

Hours of Operation

Monday–Friday
8 a.m.–11 p.m. Eastern time (ET)
Saturday–Sunday
11 a.m.–5 p.m. Eastern time (ET)
We are closed on federal holidays, the day after Thanksgiving and on December 24th.
We are open on New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday, and Washington's Birthday from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. ET.
Hearing Impaired? TTY calls only.
1-800-730-8913
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FSALegMar921
QUESTIONS