FAFSA Information

This information is taken directly https://fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm

Applying for federal student aid is quicker and easier than ever. You can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) at www.fafsa.gov. Follow these easy steps to simplify the process of applying for federal student aid.

Gather the documents needed to apply. For example, you'll need income tax returns (yours and most likely your parents), W-2 forms, and other records of income, and identification documents (social security cards, drivers licenses).

Get the complete list of documents

Apply online at FAFSA on the Web™. Submit a FAFSA. The FAFSA is used to apply for federal financial aid (grants, work-study, and loans). Also, many colleges, universities, and career schools use your FAFSA information to award state and college aid. The process is free. Never pay to apply for federal financial aid.

You'll need a PIN to "sign" your online FAFSA, make corrections to the application, and more. If you are a dependent student, your parent will need one too. You can get your PIN before you begin or as you complete the FAFSA — it's up to you.

Note: Complete the FAFSA each year, starting on January 1. Be sure you meet application deadlines. For deadlines, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Get free information and help from your school counselor, the financial aid office at the college, university, or career school you plan to attend, or the U.S. Department of Education at www.fafsa.gov (online chat is also available), or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

After You Submit the FAFSA

We process your FAFSA and the results are sent electronically to the schools you listed on your application, and we send you a Student Aid Report (SAR).

The Student Aid Report (SAR)

Your SAR summarizes all the information you provided on your FAFSA. It must be correct before you can receive federal aid. Read the information below to find out how and when you will receive your SAR, and what to do with it once you receive it.

How and when you will receive your SAR

Generally, it takes less time to process and send the SAR to you when you submit the FAFSA online and provide a valid e-mail address. If we have your valid e-mail address, you'll get your SAR e-mail in three to five days. This e-mail contains a secure link to your SAR online. If you don't provide a valid e-mail address, it takes about seven to 10 days before you'll receive your SAR by postal mail.

If you submit a paper FAFSA, you'll receive your SAR by e-mail within 2 weeks, or 3 weeks if you do not provide an e-mail address.

Note: If you have a PIN and your FAFSA has been processed, you can login at www.fafsa.gov to view SAR information regardless of whether you filed the online or paper FAFSA or provided an e-mail address or not.
What to do with your SAR
When you get your SAR, review it for accuracy.

A complete, correct SAR will contain your

- **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**, the index number used to determine your federal student aid eligibility, and
- **Data Release Number (DRN)**, a four-digit number assigned to your application by the U.S. Department of Education.

If you need to make corrections to your SAR, you can

- make them online using your PIN at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).
- check with your school; the school might be able to make them for you electronically.

If you received a paper SAR, make any necessary corrections on that SAR and mail it to the address on the form for processing.

See **Correcting Your FAFSA**.

Your Financial Aid
Make sure the financial aid office at each school you're interested in has all the information needed to determine your eligibility. Follow all directions on any communications from the school or from the U.S. Department of Education, and respond by any deadlines. If you don't, you might not receive federal student aid.

The Financial Aid Award
If you listed a school on your FAFSA and have been offered admission by that school, the financial aid office at the school will send you an award letter (most likely electronically). The award letter includes the types and amounts of financial aid you may receive from federal, state, and school sources. This combination of aid is your financial aid package.

**Sample Financial Aid Package**
Review each award letter carefully and compare how much aid you can receive at each school. Pay attention to letters or e-mail from schools, follow all directions, and contact the financial aid office if you do not understand what the school is offering you. Again, if you don't, you might not receive federal student aid.

**Borrowing Responsibly**
Your financial aid package may include federal student loans. In the case of loans, keep in mind that whatever amount you borrow must be paid back with interest. While loans can be a good investment in your future, taking out a federal student loan is a serious obligation.

**Receiving the Money**
Schools must pay you at least once per term (semester, trimester, or quarter). If your school doesn't use formally defined, traditional terms, then they must pay you at least twice per academic year.

Your school will

- credit your grant funds to your school account,
- pay you directly (usually by check),
- combine these methods, or with your permission,
- credit your bank account.

**Grants**
We offer a variety of federal grants to students attending four-year colleges or universities, community colleges, and career schools. Grants, unlike loans, are financial aid that do not have to be repaid. Use this page for a quick review of the eligibility requirements for each grant program. For additional details, you can click on the name of the grant.

You must submit a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** to apply for the grants listed on this page. Eligibility for federal student aid is based on financial need and on several other factors.
**Federal Pell Grant**
You must be an undergraduate student who does not have a bachelor's or a professional degree. If you are enrolled in a postbaccalaureate teaching certificate program, you also may receive a Pell grant.

**Current Year Award Amount:** The maximum award is $5,550.

Note: If you are eligible for a Pell Grant and your parent or guardian was a member of the U.S. Armed forces and died as a result of military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after Sept.11, 2001, you will receive the maximum Pell for the award year.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**
You must be eligible to receive a Pell Grant and have exceptional financial need.

**Current Year Award Amount:** Between $100 and $4,000 depending on when you apply and other factors.

**Federal Work Study**

Federal Work-Study (FWS) provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the recipient's course of study.

**Will I be paid the same as I would in any other job?**
You'll be paid by the hour if you're an undergraduate. No FWS student may be paid by commission or fee. Your school must pay you directly (unless you direct otherwise) and at least monthly. Wages for the program must equal at least the current federal minimum wage but might be higher, depending on the type of work you do and the skills required. The amount you earn can't exceed your total FWS award. When assigning work hours, your employer or financial aid administrator will consider your award amount, your class schedule, and your academic progress.

**What kinds of jobs are there in Federal Work-Study?**
If you work on campus, you'll usually work for your school. If you work off campus, your employer will usually be a private nonprofit organization or a public agency, and the work performed must be in the public interest.

Your school might have agreements with private for-profit employers for Federal Work-Study jobs. This type of job must be relevant to your course of study (to the maximum extent possible). If you attend a career school, there might be further restrictions on the jobs you can be assigned