

FAFSA WORKSHOP



INTRODUCTION

Welcome! Thank you for being here.





AGENDA

1. What is FAFSA?
 2. Types of Aid
 3. Important Deadlines
 4. How to Apply
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WHAT IS THE FAFSA?

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid and it provides:

- Financial aid from the **federal** and **state** governments to help you pay for education expenses at an eligible college or career school and includes:
 - Grants
 - Loans
 - Work-study (click [HERE](#) for more information)
 - Scholarships
- Colleges use the FAFSA to calculate how much aid you qualify for, including state and federal student loans, grants, and work-study programs.



*FAFSA forms must be submitted to qualify



WHAT KIND OF FEDERAL AID IS AVAILABLE?

- **Pell Grant**—the main federal grant for students who need help paying for college. You can get up to \$7,395 per year.
- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**—for students who need the most financial help. You can get up to \$4,000 to go along with your Pell Grant.
- **Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant**—for students who lost a parent in Iraq or Afghanistan after 9/11. You can get the Pell Grant amount even if your income is too high.
- **TEACH Grant**—for students who plan to be teachers. You must agree to teach in a high-need field at a school that serves low-income students.
- **Work-Study**—work part-time while you go to college. Your job may relate to your major or focus on community service.
- **Student Loans**—borrow money for college if your other financial aid isn't enough. Federal loans are better than private loans.

*Priority Deadline:
March 2, 2026



WHAT KIND OF STATE AID IS AVAILABLE?

- **Cal Grant**—the main state grant. You can get thousands of dollars depending on your family's income, what college you go to, and your GPA.
- **California College Promise Grant**—for CCC students. You won't have to pay enrollment fees. <https://cccapply.org/en/money/california-college-promise-grant>
- **Chafee Grant**—for current or former foster youth. You can get up to \$5,000 per year.
- **Middle Class Scholarship**—for CSU or UC students with incomes too high for the Cal Grant. It'll help cover some of your total cost of attendance.
- **Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents (LEPD) Grant**—for children of law enforcement officers who were killed or 100% disabled in the line of duty. If you get a Cal Grant, your LEPD grant will match it.
- **California DREAM Loan**—for undocumented students who go to a CSU or UC. You can borrow money for college. DREAM Loans are better than private loans.

*Priority Deadline:
March 2, 2026

DEADLINES (OPENS DEC 1)



- ***The college deadline***
 - Deadlines vary from college to college-be sure to check their website to ensure you do not miss their specific deadline for FAFSA
- ***The state deadline***
 - Priority deadline for FAFSA in California is March 2, 2026 for the 2026-2027 fall semester-submitting by the priority deadline ensures your family receives the most money possible
- ***The federal deadline***
 - After June 30, 2027 the FAFSA becomes unavailable for the remainder of that year

***Submit as early as possible (even before priority deadline) to avoid any delays in funding

HOW TO APPLY STEP BY STEP GUIDE

Simple steps to a better future!



STEP 01: CREATE AN FSA ID



Student:

- An FSA ID is your account username and password
- You need it to sign the FAFSA form online
- It takes about 10 minutes to create an FSA ID
- Save your username and password in a safe place! (do not lose it)

[Create an FSA ID](#)



Parent:

- If you are the parent of a dependent student, you need to create your own FSA ID to sign your child's FAFSA form online
- As a parent, you'll be able to use your FSA ID right away

***Save your username and password in a safe place! (do not lose it)**



STEP 02: START THE FAFSA FORM



Some states and schools run out of financial aid early and have limited funds. So, don't wait until the last minute to apply!

- If you are the student: Select "I am a student and want to access the FAFSA form." Then, log in using your FSA ID.
- If you are the parent: Select "I am a parent filling out a FAFSA form for a student." After selecting the parent role, you will need to provide your child's name, their date of birth, and their Social Security number.

[Start the FAFSA](#)



***Create a Save Key: A save key is a temporary password that allows you and your student to "pass" the FAFSA form back and forth. It also allows you to save the FAFSA form and return to it later.**

STEP 03: FILL OUT THE DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION



Student: The Student Demographics section includes your name, date of birth, etc.

- If you either completed the FAFSA form in the past or logged into the FAFSA form with your FSA ID, most of your personal information will prepopulate to save you time.
- Make sure you enter your personal information exactly as it appears on your Social Security card.

Parent: Remember that the FAFSA form is the student's application and not yours

- When the FAFSA form says "you" or "your," it's referring to the student (unless otherwise noted).
- Pay attention to whether you're asked to provide student or parent information.

STEP 04: LIST THE SCHOOLS THAT WILL RECEIVE YOUR FAFSA INFORMATION



Student: Add *every school* you're considering, even if you haven't sent your application or received an acceptance letter.

- You do not have to remove schools if you later decide not to apply or attend
- You can add up to 20 schools at a time
- You can remove and replace schools if you change your mind along the way

*For assistance *all the Federal Student Aid Information Center*



1-800-433-3243

*Live chat with financial aid virtual assistant

STEP 05: ANSWER THE DEPENDENCY STATUS QUESTIONS



Students need to respond to a series of specific questions to find out whether they are a dependent or independent student

- The answers to these questions will determine whether they need to provide parent information on the FAFSA form
- The U.S. Congress sets the dependency guidelines. They are different from the guidelines the IRS uses

STEP 06: FILL OUT THE PARENT DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION

In the student application, parents will need to help their student enter basic demographic information.



STEP 07: PROVIDE YOUR FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Next, your student (with your help) will provide their parent(s) financial information

- This step is incredibly simple if you use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)
- Tax year 2024 information is used
- The IRS DRT allows you to import your IRS tax information into the FAFSA form with just a few clicks
- Using this tool may reduce the amount of paperwork you need to provide to your school. So, make sure to use it, if you're eligible.



STEP 08: SIGN AND SUBMIT YOUR FAFSA FORM



The quickest and easiest way to sign your FAFSA form is online with your FSA ID

- Both the parent AND the student need to sign and submit their forms separately
- Make sure you and your student don't mix up your FSA ID's (this is a common mistake)
- If you have multiple children, you can use the same FSA ID to sign FAFSA forms for each child
- You can also transfer your information into multiple students' applications by choosing the option provided on the FAFSA confirmation page

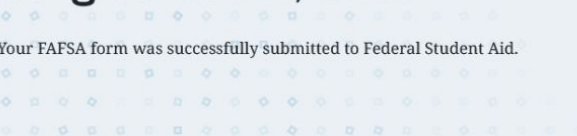
WHAT YOU SHOULD SEE:





Congratulations, tester!

Your FAFSA form was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid.



[FAFSA Home](#) | [Exit FAFSA Form](#)

08/18/2022 12:40:11
Confirmation Number: F 18900009804
Data Release Number (DRN): 0405

Here's what happens next:

- In 7–10 business days, we will mail you a *Student Aid Report* (SAR) notifying you that your FAFSA form was processed.
- Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or when they are ready to discuss your financial aid award.
- If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact your school(s).

Do you have another child who needs to complete a FAFSA?

If so you can transfer your information into a new FAFSA form for your other child to save time. You will have to provide a signature again, but that's all.

[Transfer FAFSA Information](#)

[Print This Page](#) 





What comes next after submission?

- After the application has processed, the colleges to which your student has been accepted will contact you with award package details



ADDITIONAL OPTIONS



SCHOLARSHIP

Once you are admitted and registered with a college, you can apply for their private scholarships through the student portal



CSS PROFILE

An online application used by colleges and scholarship programs to award non-federal institutional aid. Click [HERE](#) for a list of participating schools.



TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Allows workers to pursue specific degrees and certificates, with the company contributing a set amount of money

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

The background is a dark teal color. In the top left, there is a blue circle and a white line. In the top center, a black graduation cap is shown. In the top right, a logo features a white 'W' with a blue arrow pointing up and to the right, and a green arrow pointing up and to the left. In the bottom left, two hands (one light skin, one dark skin) are raised, with a black graduation cap above them. In the bottom right, two hands (one light skin, one dark skin) are raised, with a black graduation cap above them. A trail of white dots is at the bottom center.

**THANK
YOU!**

RESOURCES

<https://studentaid.gov/>

<https://www.salliemae.com/>

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

<https://formyourfuture.org/more-resources/>

<https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/resources/all.jsp>

