

---

---

# What is FAFSA?

— Free Application for Federal  
Student Aid —

---

---

# How FAFSA works

- Each year the federal government provides more than \$150 billion in financial aid for college.
  - These come in the form of grants, work-study, and loans.
- To apply you must complete FAFSA online, it is a simple application with tips throughout the process and information to help you understand the questions.
  - Usually takes less than 30 minutes.
- Even if you don't think you will need Financial Aid still fill it out, as some schools won't consider you for scholarships based on academics or talents until you've submitted the application.

# What you need for the application

- FAFSA will ask you about you and/or your legal guardian's finances. If possible complete the application with your legal guardian to help you. If you don't know an answer that's ok! Save it and come back to it when you know.
- Create your FSA ID [here](#)
- Have this information ready:
  - Social Security Number or Alien Registration number
  - Federal tax information or tax returns
  - Cash, savings and checking account balances
  - Any investments other than your home.
  - Records of untaxed income

# Filling out the application

- Applications come out every year in October for the next school year. It is very important you fill it out as soon as possible when it comes out to meet any deadlines.
- Each state and school has their own deadline, you can check a deadline on a school's website or by calling the financial aid office for the school.
- State deadlines can be found [here](#)
- Submission options:
  - Online at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) (usually the easiest way)
  - Fill out the form in the myStudentAid mobile app (available on the App Store or Google Play)
  - Mail in application: download PDF [here](#) or request a printed PDF by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID

# What happens after?

- You should receive an email within a few days to let you know your FAFSA was processed. Your college might request additional information, make sure you respond by their deadline.
- First-time applicants: You will receive an aid offer from each school you applied to and put on your FAFSA that states how much you could receive at the school. Review and compare your offers. Once you formally accept your will school will handle your aid. Contact financial aid or visit the office to ask how your aid will be paid and when, what it covers, and how much money will come directly to you once tuition and fees are handled.

# Contact Information

- [Fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
- [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- 1-800-433-3243