FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid



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Fill out your FAFSA application as soon as possible...



FAFSA CHECKLIST

Things you'll need to fill out FAFSA (from the FAFSA Official website: fafsa.ed.gov)

- $\sqrt{}$ Your Social Security Number
- √ Your Alien Registration Number (If not a U.S. Citizen)
- Your Most Recent Federal income tax returns, W-2, and other records of money earned
 Note: You may be able to transfer your Federal tax return information into your FAFSA using the IRS data retrieval tool.
- $\sqrt{}$ Bank statement and records of investments (If applicable)
- $\sqrt{}$ Records of untaxed income (If applicable)
- √ ▲federal student aid Pin to sign electronically Note: If you do not have a Pin visit <u>www.pin.ed.gov</u> to obtain one.
- If you are an dependent student (meaning your parents or guardian claim you on their taxes) you need the above information for them as well



Even if you are only thinking about going to college...file so you don't limit your options!



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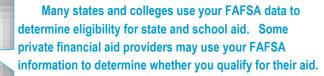
Get to know the

Click here to start if you do not have a FAFSA PIN Number or Password.

Help can be found at anytime by clicking the help button.

Be mindful of ALL DEADLINES. If you miss a deadline you may not get all the aid you are qualified for.

Click on the **School Code Search** title to bring up the page to find a specific school code





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To apply for *federal student* aid, you need to complete the *FAFSA*[®] or *Free Application for Federal Student Aid*.

Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and quick, and it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid

to pay for college or career school.

In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA data to determine your eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

Myths about Financial Aid from FAFSA.ed.gov

"my parents make too much money, so I won't qualify for aid." Reality: There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors besides income—from the size of your family to the age of your older parent—are taken into account. Your eligibility is determined by a mathematical formula, not by your parents' income alone. And remember: when you fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSASM), you're also automatically applying for funds from your state, and possibly from your school as well. In fact, some schools won't even consider you for any of their scholarships (including academic scholarships) until you've submitted a FAFSA. Don't make assumptions about what you'll get— fill out the application and find out. "... only students with good grades get financial aid." Reality: While a high grade point average will help a student get into a good school and may help with academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student's grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress in his or her program of study, federal student aid will help a student with an average academic record complete his or her education.

"... I'm too old to get financial aid."

Reality: Funds from federal student aid programs are awarded on the basis of financial need, not on the basis of age. Adult students can get financial aid, so be sure to fill out the FAFSA.

"... the form is too hard to fill out."

Reality: The FAFSA is easier than ever, especially if you fill it out online at www.fafsa.gov. There are detailed instructions for every question, and the form walks you through step by step, asking only the questions that apply to you. If you need help, you can access real-time, private online chat with a customer service representative. If you're filling out the paper FAFSA, you can get help from a high school counselor, from the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend, or from our toll-free number: 1-800-4-FED-AID. And remember, the FAFSA and all these sources of advice are FREE.



Glossary

- **Work-Study** ____ A federal student aid program that provides part-time employment while you are enrolled in school to help pay your education expenses.
- Interest _____ A loan expense charged for the use of borrowed money. Interest is paid by a borrower to a lender. The expense is calculated as a percentage of the unpaid principal amount of the loan.
- Federal Student Aid _____ Financial aid from the federal government to help you pay for education expenses at an eligible college or career school. Grants, loans and work-study are types of federal student aid.
- Room and Board _____ An allowance for the cost of housing and food while attending college or career school.
- Federal Student Aid Programs _____ The

programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 that provide grants, loans and work-study funds from the federal government to eligible students enrolled in college or career training

Financial Aid Office _____ The office at a college or career school that is responsible for preparing and communicating information on financial aid. This office helps students apply for and receive student loans, grants and Other financial aid.

Scholarship _____ Money awarded to students based on academic or other achievements to help pay for education expenses. Scholarships generally do not have to be repaid.



'something you don't see here? Find more information at https://fafsa.ed.gov/

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Do you know about the

resources available to you and your family ...and

the difference these resources can make for your future?

If you have any questions, see your college coach:

Liz Neill in the "Gear Up Office" (3110) or

email: elizabeth.neill@madison.kyschools.us

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KEEP CALM

AND

FILE YOUR

FAFSA