Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Free Money for College

CREDIT UNION
Student Choice

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Presentation Highlights

- **What is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

- **FAFSA updates**

- **Prepare for the FAFSA**

- **Tips on completing the FAFSA**

- **What happens next**

- **CSS Profile**

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What is the FAFSA?

- The application used for federal student aid programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education (ED)

- Determines the eligibility for state, school and private aid

- Federal, state, school and private aid covers many expenses – tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, computer and dependent care

- Determines the amount you or your family will be expected to contribute to college Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- All federal grant and loan awards are determined by the FAFSA

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What is the FAFSA?

- Managed by the Office of Federal Student Aid, part of the Department of Higher Education

- ED awards more than $150 billion a year in federal aid

- Completing the FAFSA is *FREE*

- Many families with children in college do not file a FAFSA
  - Anyone who fills out the FAFSA will at least qualify for a federally insured, low-cost loan —and perhaps other valuable aid such as Pell grants.

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Types of Available Aid

Grants are typically awarded on the basis of need and generally do not have to be repaid.

• Federal Pell Grant

• Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)

• Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants

• Iraq and Afghanistan Service

Types of Aid Available

- Federal Work-Study Program

- The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program

- State government aid

- Aid from the college

- Scholarships

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Prepare for the FAFSA

- **Who completes the FAFSA** – Families who have a senior in high school will complete their first FAFSA in October of senior year and will renew the FAFSA each year they attend college, all the way through graduate school.

- **Deadlines: Federal, State, School (2019-2020)**
    - Online - https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa#deadlines
    - Federal – June 30, 2020
    - State – varies with each state
    - School – check with school (ask – is it the date the school receives your FAFSA or when your FAFSA was processed)
    - FAFSA Corrections – September 30, 2019

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Prepare for the FAFSA

- **Filing Options:**

  - FAFSA on the web – https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa

  - myStudentAid mobile app – App store or Google Play

  - PDF FAFSA - https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa//2019-20-fafsa.pdf

  - Paper FAFSA – 1-800-4-FED-AId

  - Hearing impaired – TTY line 800-730-8913

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Prepare for the FAFSA

Create a FSA ID

- www.fafsa.ed.gov/sa/fsaid
- Student and parent(s) must have one
- Used as electronic signature
- Used to access National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)

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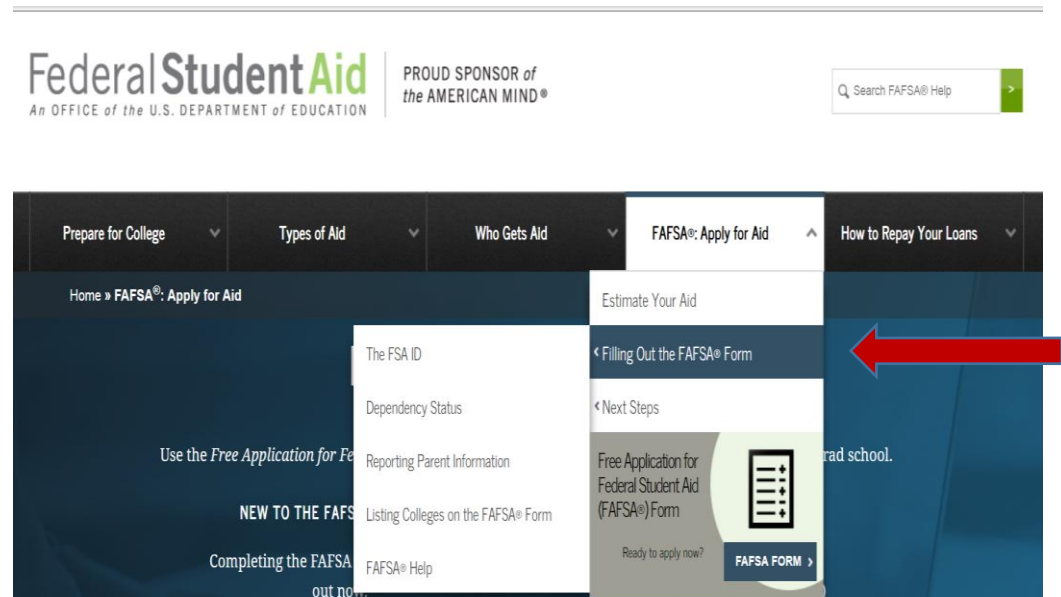
Prepare for the FAFSA

- Your Social Security number (it's important that you enter it correctly on the FAFSA form!)

- Your parents' Social Security numbers if you are a dependent student

- Your driver's license number if you have one

- Your Alien Registration number if you are not a U.S. citizen

- 2017 Federal tax information or tax returns including IRS W-2 information, for you (and your spouse, if you are married), and for your parents if you are a dependent student:
  - IRS 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ
  - Foreign tax return
  - Tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or Palau

- Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, interest income, and veterans noneducation benefits, for you, and for your parents if you are a dependent student

- Information on cash; savings and checking account balances; investments, including stocks and bonds and real estate (but not including the home in which you live); and business and farm assets for you, and for your parents if you are a dependent student

- Keep these records! You may need them again.

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Questions

Help resources

- On-line help - offered for each question

- Paper –pages 1, 2, 9 and 10

- 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
  - TTY 1-800-730-8913

- Tax questions –consult a tax advisor

- College Access Counselor –scheduler and email
  - http://www.studentchoice.org/college-access-counselor/

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2019-2020 FAFSA Updates

- The fafsa.gov website has been redesigned so that the site pages will fit the screen size and shape of any device, including desktop or laptop computers and mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets.

- The online FAFSA form will provide faster feedback. Students will receive error notifications as they complete the form's fields.

- Income for an automatic-zero Expected Family Contribution (EFC) will be increased from $25,000 to $26,000.

- State deadlines.

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Completing the FAFSA

https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa

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Completing the FAFSA

Login

Only students may use their FSA ID to log in. Parents and others can start a FAFSA for a student by entering the student's identifiers.
On the "Login" page:
Select **I am the student** to log in with the student's FSA username and password.
Or
Select **I am a parent, preparer, or student from a Freely Associated State** to log in with the student's name, Social Security Number and date of birth.

Login

Log in to the FAFSA

Only students may use their FSA ID to log in. Parents and others can start a FAFSA for a student by entering the student's identifiers. Parents and others can also work on a FAFSA form or correction the student started using the **Save Key** that the student made. Help for parents.

Form Approved
OMB No. 1845-0001.
App. Exp. 12/31/2020.

I am the student   OR   I am a parent, preparer, or student from a Freely Associated State

NEXT

Completing the FAFSA

Introduction Page

Introduction – 2019-2020 FAFSA

STUDENT INFORMATION

❯ Expand All

❯ How can I get help completing my FAFSA?

❯ How many steps does it take to complete?

❯ How long will it take to complete?

❯ Can I save my FAFSA if I can't finish it?

❯ Documents needed to complete the FAFSA

❯ Signing the FAFSA

❯ *FAFSA on the Web* Security and Privacy

NEXT ⊙

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Completing the FAFSA

**Step 1:
Student
Demographics**

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Completing the FAFSA

You will receive a green check mark when each step is completed. The information was auto saved to your FAFSA.

Completing the FAFSA

Step 2:
School Selection

Enter the name, city, and state of your high school, then click **Search**.

What is the name of your high school?

In what city is your high school located?

In what state is your high school located?

Select

SEARCH   PREVIOUS   NEXT

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Completing the FAFSA

**Step 2:
School Selection**

Here's where you'll search for the colleges to which you'd like to send your FAFSA information. You can add up to 10 colleges at a time to your FAFSA. If you're applying to more than 10 colleges, follow these instructions.

Make sure you add ALL colleges you're interested in, even if you haven't applied or been accepted yet.

Complete the fields below to search for a college to add to your FAFSA.

Do you know the college's Federal School Code?
○ Yes ⦿ No

State

| Select ▾ |

City (optional)

| |

School Name (optional)

| |

SEARCH TIPS ⓘ   ◆ PREVIOUS   SEARCH 🔍

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Completing the FAFSA

**Step 3:
Dependency Status**

- Were you born before January 1, 1996?

- As of today, are you married? (This is a "Yes" If you are separated but not divorced.)

- At the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year, will you be working on a master's degree or doctorate program?

- Do you now have, or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support for you, between July 1, 2019 and June 30 2020?

- Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2020?

- Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?

- Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

- At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parent deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

- As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?

- Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?

- At any time on or after July 1, 2018, did you receive a determination from an entity below that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless, or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

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Completing the FAFSA

Step 3:
Dependency Status

- FAFSA dependent not the same as Tax dependent
- Dependency overrides – contact financial aid office
  - Death of a parent
  - Incarceration of a parent
  - Parental drug use
  - Parent whereabouts unknown
  - Student abandonment by parents

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Completing the FAFSA

Step 4:
Parent Demographics

Which parent completes the FAFSA?

- Parents are married – both

- Divorced parents – the parent the student lived with most in the last 12 months and the parents spouse if remarried

Parent Marital Status

| Student Demographics ✓ | School Selection ✓ | Dependency Status ✓ | Parent Demographics ✎ | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation |

PARENT INFORMATION

✓ Application was successfully saved.

ℹ Because the FAFSA belongs to the student, "you" and "your" always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.

As of today, what is the marital status of your parents? ❓

Select ▼

Select
Never Married
Unmarried and both legal parents living together
Married or Remarried
Divorced or Separated
Widowed

Completing the FAFSA

Step 5: Financial Information

Parent Tax Filing Status

Student Demographics — School Selection — Dependency Status — Parent Demographics — Financial Information — Sign & Submit — Confirmation

PARENT INFORMATION

✓ Application was successfully saved.

ℹ **Attention!** You must provide financial information from your parents' **2017 tax return** on the following pages.

For 2017, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?

Select ▾

PREVIOUS   NEXT ▶

Completing the FAFSA

Step 5: Financial Information

Completing the FAFSA

Step 6:
Sign and Submit

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Completing the FAFSA

**Step 6:
Sign and Submit**

Agreement of Terms

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics ✓ Financial Information ✓ Sign & Submit ✏ Confirmation

STUDENT INFORMATION

READ BEFORE PROCEEDING

By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID (username and password) and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you:

1. will use federal and/or state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education,
2. are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
3. do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
4. will notify your school if you default on a federal student loan, and
5. will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one school for the same period of time.

By signing this application electronically using your username and password, and/or any other credential or by

I, the student, agree to the terms outlined above.
○ Agree   ⦿ Disagree

Completing the FAFSA

**Step 6:
Sign and Submit**

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Completing the FAFSA

Step 6:
Sign and Submit

Parent Signature for
Social Security Number: **XXX-XX-1111**
Last Name: **Roberts**
Date of Birth: **01/10/1963**

What is your (the parent's) FSA ID?
Do not enter the FSA ID if you are not the parent.

FSA ID Username or Verified E-mail Address

Forgot Username | Create an FSA ID

FSA ID Password

Forgot Password

SIGN THIS FAFSA ✏

Completing the FAFSA

**Step 6:
Sign and Submit**

Completing the FAFSA

Step 7: Confirmation

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Next Steps

- FAFSA online –processed within 3 –5 business days

- FAFSA paper –processed within 10 business days

- Student Aid Report(SAR)
  - Summary of FAFSA information –review for accuracy
  - Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  - Data Release Number (DRN)
  - FAFSA Verification
  - Make corrections if necessary

Next Steps

- Institutional Student Information Record
  - (ISIR)Schools will received this which is a summary of your FAFSA

- Financial aid award package/letter
  - Not all colleges listed on FAFSA will send an award package/letter (check with FAO)
  - Receive mid-march
  - Compare packages/letters
  - May 1st-decision

College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile

What is the CSS Profile?
- The CSS Profile is an online application for student financial aid and is used by nearly 400 colleges, universities and professional schools. Institutions get a closer look of finances for families and students.
- Available October 1st each year
- CSS Profile schools: https://profile.collegeboard.org/profile/ppi/participatingInstitutions.aspx

Why apply?
- Some colleges require the application
- Provides access to a large source of funding that may not be available through FAFSA

Fees?
- The fee for the initial application and one college program report is $25
- Additional reports are $16
- Fee waivers are available for low-income students

What information is required?
- Family income from two years prior to attending college
- Family income from year prior to attending college
- Family income from anticipated year to come

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CSS Profile

https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/

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CSS Profile

Tips and helpful resources

- On-line application – hover help available within each questions

- Customer support staff – chat live, email or phone
  - US and Canada - **844-202-0524**

- CSS Profile online website – guides and tutorials

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Thank You for Attending

Tricia Poplicean

College Access Counselor | Student Choice

Please contact us with any additional questions:

scholarhelp@studentchoice.org

http://www.studentchoice.org/college-access-counselor

iGrad – modern financial wellness
for students and parents

www.studentchoice.org/igrad