

# FAFSA QUICK TIPS

## Complete Your FAFSA for College Success



### What is the FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) is the document you need to complete to apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study, and loans. By completing the FAFSA, you can access the largest source of financial aid to pay for your postsecondary education.

### How do I apply?

Visit [studentaid.gov/FAFSA](https://studentaid.gov/FAFSA) to complete and submit your application for FREE!

### What is a Federal Student Aid account username and password (FSA ID)?

The FSA ID is a username and password you create and use to sign the FAFSA every year. If you are a dependent student, one of your parents will also need to create an FSA ID.

## FAQs

### What You'll Need to File Your FAFSA:

- Your Social Security number
- Your driver's license number, if you have one (optional)
- Your alien registration number, if you are not a U.S. citizen
- Your W-2 forms
- Records of other untaxed income received, including workers' compensation, child support, payments to tax-deferred pension, and savings plans, etc.
- Your federal income tax return and schedules from the prior-prior year (For example, if completing the 2023-24 FAFSA, use 2021 income tax return information.)
- Your current bank statements and records of stocks, bonds, 529 plans, and other investments.
- A personal email address (not a school email address)

#### If you are a dependent student, you will also need:

- Your parent's Social Security number
- Your parent's income and financial records (listed above)
- Parents date of marriage/remarriage – month/year
- Parents date of separation/divorce – month/year

### Why complete the FAFSA?

The FAFSA form is the single most important document for students to complete to help get financial assistance for their postsecondary education. The FAFSA opens October 1st each year and must be completed annually to receive financial assistance. In Florida, the FAFSA is used to determine some of the State Scholarship and Grant Programs. In addition, colleges also use FAFSA data to award their own financial aid.

### When is the FAFSA due?

Financial aid deadlines vary by school, state, program of study, and more.

- **Check with your college/university** for their priority deadline
- **May 15:** Florida State Scholarship & Grant programs that require the FAFSA (or by the deadline specified by the awarding institution)

### What is the IRS Data Retrieval Tool?

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool electronically transfers your federal tax return information into your FAFSA form. The tool makes the process fast, easy and accurate!

## What tax information do I submit?

If you plan to attend college from	Submit your FAFSA	Using income & tax information from
July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023	October 1, 2021-June 30, 2023	2020
July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024	October 1, 2022-June 30, 2024	2021
July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025	October 1, 2023-June 30, 2025	2022



## Schools I'm Listing on My FAFSA

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

If you need to change the schools listed on your FAFSA, log in to [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov), or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) TTY (Hearing Impaired) 1-800-730-8913

## What happens next?

Your FAFSA application will process within 3-5 days if you submitted it online. If you completed a paper FAFSA, it takes 7-10 days. Once your application is processed, you will receive a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) which you should check for any errors and make any necessary corrections online at [studentaid.gov/FAFSA](https://studentaid.gov/FAFSA), or by mail on your paper SAR. Your SAR will include your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) which determines if you will be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. The EFC is also used by colleges to determine other federal and nonfederal student aid. Your SAR will be shared with the schools that you listed on the FAFSA but only schools that you've been accepted to will send out financial aid award packages. You should check with your schools to see when they will post award packages and if they need additional information.

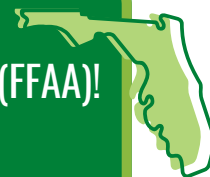
**Do you Have Changes in Your Circumstances?** If your financial situation has changed significantly compared to the financial aid information shared on your FAFSA, you may request a professional judgment from a financial aid administrator at your postsecondary institution. It is the discretion of the administrator but they may adjust your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

## Don't Forget the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)!

The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) administers state-funded grant and scholarship programs. The Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) is the application students complete for some of these programs.

Apply at [FloridaStudentFinancialAids.org](https://FloridaStudentFinancialAids.org) by selecting Create a Student Account.

Remember to pay attention to individual application deadlines!



Learn more about financial aid at [pcsb.org/financialaid](https://pcsb.org/financialaid)

