

Helpful [2024-2025 FAFSA](https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa) Information

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Use only the official website above to complete the FAFSA.

See [video](#) on the 2024-2025 FAFSA

Targeted Release date by US Dept of Education: December 31, 2023

Good to know:

All the links on the page are live and will take you to information regarding the FAFSA.

The FAFSA is a FREE, Federal document. Families should not have to pay to complete it. Use only the official site. Follow all the necessary steps and submit any documents requested by the college.

Even if you feel that your family will not qualify for any federal resources, complete the FAFSA anyway, as it is a requirement for many community-based scholarship applications. Some community-based applications will require that you answer a few questions about your FAFSA.

Year 2022 taxes are required to complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA.

Complete the FAFSA, as soon as possible, and by the college's designated priority date.

The FAFSA must be completed in all electronic format or all paper format- No Hybrid

The student and parent are required to request an [FSA ID](#) prior to completing the FAFSA, together. Families may do this now. Make sure to use different e-mail addresses for each account.

If students feel they do not qualify to complete the FAFSA, VASA may be an option. See below.

Steps of How the FAFSA Works in the College Process:

Family Completes the FAFSA Form to include up to 20 colleges of interest

Federal Government reviews the FAFSA to determine family's SAI (Student Aid Index)

College-University will access the form after student's acceptance to the college

College-University will determine a financial aid package based on student's FAFSA info (SAI)

College-University sends family the financial aid award letter for review

Family reviews all letters of financial aid and makes a decision

Family informs the college of the student's intention to attend or not attend

Family pays the required deposit to the college student will attend

Federal Student Aid Estimator:

Families may want to use the [Federal Student Aid Estimator](#) before filling out the FAFSA® form to help them understand their options for paying for college or career school by providing them an early estimate of how much federal student aid they may be eligible for.

[VASA en Espanol](#)

[VASA](#)- Virginia Alternative State Aid Application:

The VASA is a Virginia State Aid application that is used as an alternative to the FAFSA. Students who do not qualify to complete the FAFSA are encouraged to complete the VASA, as it will be reviewed by the college to determine possible financial aid assistance.

If families are unsure as to which application to complete, please see information on this [page](#).

PWCS Family Engagement Series:

Families are encouraged to regularly check this [site](#) for any upcoming FAFSA-Financial Aid learning opportunities. All webinars and events are free of charge; however, registration is required.

Scope of Expertise:

Please be advised that the FAFSA form is created by the US Department of Education and is intended to be used as a tool to determine possible financial aid resources that will ultimately be awarded by the respective college. It is not directly affiliated with any public school.

Webinars and workshops offered by schools are in partnership with various, regional financial aid experts who have the ability to answer many sensitive, personal questions. College-Career Counselors and School Counselors are limited in their expertise of FAFSA and will be able to answer general knowledge of the FAFSA for which they have been trained.

Per Financial Aid experts, other modes of assistance to answer specific questions may include but are not limited to:

FSCAIC ([Federal Student Aid Information Center](#))

Financial Aid Office of the College

[ECMC- The College Place](#)

Personal CPA/Attorney