

FAFSA



**FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT
AID**

FAFSA WORKSHOP WEBINAR
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College Overview



- **Why college?**
 - importance
 - success
- **Debt**
 - why debt?
 - dangers of loans & dropping out of college w/ debt
 - ✦ no bankruptcy protection
 - ✦ credit, jobs
 - horror stories

Purpose of FAFSA



- **Cash?**

- best way to pay for college
- defer expenses = higher expenses

- **Other options?**

- need FAFSA
- even for scholarships

- **FAFSA =**

- Benchmark for grants, assistance, aid, and loans
- based on total family income/ assets

Grants = direct payment on behalf of student. *** Grants may be subject to income taxes!!!**

Work Study: direct payment for tuition in exchange for on campus work

Assistance: may include subsidized loans, discounted rates, etc.

Loans: must be repaid. Student loans are repaid after leaving school, **even if dropping out**
Parent loans may be required to begin repayment after six months, or may be deferred until graduation or leaving school

Types of Aid



- **Scholarships**
- **Work Study**
- **Grants**
 - Pell Grant: max \$5500
 - ✦ undergraduates
 - ✦ need based
- **Direct Stafford Loan**
- **Loans:**
 - Department of Education
 - Sallie Mae
 - Private Banks / State Programs
- **Loan Programs:**
 - Perkins Loans (needs based)
 - Federal Student Loan
 - Parent co-signature
 - Promissory Note (indebted!)
 - Parent Plus
 - parent only, not with student

Loan Purposes



- Tuition, room & board
- Overpayments for other expenses allowed
 - refund the parent not the student
- Be careful!
 - horror stories

Deadlines



- **State deadlines**
 - state programs & schools
 - starting March
- **Federal deadlines**
 - end of June
- **School deadlines**
 - Financial Aid Offices
 - they will work with you!

<https://fafsa.ed.gov/deadlines.htm>

FAFSA = Student not Parent



- FAFSA is an account for students
 - Parent information required for dependents
 - independents are aged 24+ for FAFSA, or certain conditions where the student is legally independent and not declared a dependent for tax purposes
 - Parents should fill out forms with dependent students
- BUT....**
- remember, your child's school will contract with the child and **NOT** the parent!
 - That means, grades, information, etc. goes to the student.
 - Some schools adding parents, but mostly the contract is with the student ... even if the parent is paying!!

FAFSA Forms



- Required Information
 - be prepared with:
- Socials, dob
- W2s & income tax forms
 - ✦ may important 1040EZ filings directly from IRS
 - ✦ estimated taxes are okay, but will need to be verified
- Assets, including bank accounts, property, businesses, etc.
- Need information for ALL parents, including remarried
- Lots of fields to fill out! Will take up to an hour even if you have all the information ahead of time!

FAFSA Filing Notes



- **Browser functions**
 - enable popups for www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - don't get stuck half-way through and have to start all over.
 - the FAFSA site should detect browser issues.
 - I add FAFSA site to my browser "safe site" lists
- **FAFSA account will be made for the student**
 - will have PIN number
 - ✦ keep it somewhere accessible and safe
 - email address
 - ✦ use your child's and /or your own (if possible?), as all correspondence will go to that email
- ***** be sure to record these !!! *****
- **You will need to re-file every year**

Links



- Department of Education websites:
 - <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
 - ✦ NOTE: fafsa.com is NOT Department Education website!!!
 - <http://www.direct.ed.gov/>
 - <http://studentaid.ed.gov>
 - <http://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/estimate>
 - <https://fafsa.ed.gov/deadlines.htm>

- Youtube:
 - [Federal Student Aid](#) (US Dept of Education video)
 - many other videos on FAFSA on youtube.