

NEW
Filing Date:
The FAFSA
Application
Available
October 1st

Go to **FAFSA.GOV** and start your FAFSA.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to apply for federal, state and college-based financial aid. You should file a FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1, 2016. Student Financial Aid can be any of the following:

- ✓ **Grants – (Free money)**
- ✓ **Loans – (Must be paid back)**
- ✓ **Federal Work Study (on campus employment)**

A great website to bookmark related to college planning is <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov>

What you will need:

- **FSA ID for both the student and the dependent student's parent/stepparent**
- **Your Social Security number**
- **Your alien registration number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)**
- **Your 2015 federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned.**
- **Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)**
- **Records of untaxed income (if applicable)**

If you are a dependent student, you will also need most of the above information for your parent(s).

How long will it take?



FSA ID:	20 Minutes
Initial Application:	30 Minutes
Renewal Application:	20 Minutes
Corrections:	10 Minutes

Federal Student Aid ID

Use your FSA ID to confirm your identity when you access your financial aid information and electronically sign your federal student aid documents, including the FAFSA. It is very important that you remember the FSA ID you create. If you forget it you may be forced to start all over again with creating a new FSA ID and resubmitting the FAFSA.

Both the student and at least one parent of the dependent student will need to create an FSA ID

Note: Set up active email accounts for both the student and one parent before apply for the FSA ID.

Keep in mind: the FAFSA is just one step of many in obtaining federal student aid.

- 1** Go online to fsaid.ed.gov (It's faster to do this a few days before beginning the FAFSA.)
- 2** Enter your email address, then create a user name
- 3** Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information and challenge questions and answers.
- 4** Confirm your email address using the secure code, which will be sent to the email address you entered when you created your FSA ID.
- 5** Confirm your email address using the secure code, which will be sent to the email address you entered when you created your FSA ID.

Tips for Step 3:

- 1. You will have to set two challenge questions on your own -**
Examples: mother/father's middle name, high school name or mascot, city of birth, first pet, etc.
- 2. You will be asked to provide a significant date of your choice – Hint: It can't be your own birthday**
Examples: A parent or sibling's birthday, anniversary, date of graduation, etc.

FAFSA - Who Is my parent?

Sometimes this can be confusing to answer for some students. The simple answer is, you should complete the FAFSA and include the income information for the **biological or adoptive parent(s)** you lived with most in the prior 12 months; or the parent who provided the most financial support in the past year. If you live with a parent and a stepparent (legally married) you must include both individuals income tax information.

A parent is not a grandparent or other adult who has legal custody of the student. If you have questions about who should complete the FAFSA with you talk to your school counselor or another college and career access specialist in your school. Kendra Maddox in the College & Career Center is happy to answer any questions concerning college access and student aid.

Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Use to complete income tax information on the FAFSA

1. Answer the filtering questions to determine if you are eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval tool
2. If eligible, select which parent's FSA ID will be used.
3. Enter the parent's FSA ID and password
4. Click "Link to IRS"
5. Review the information displayed and select the "Transfer My Information into the FAFSA". Transferred information questions that are populated with that tax information will be marked with "Transferred from the IRS". **Do not edit this information.**
6. Be sure to enter your address exactly as it appears on the tax return when linking to the IRS.
7. Once data retrieval is finished go through and answer the rest of the questions.

Are you eligible for the Data Retrieval Tool?

Some families will not be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool? If any of the following situations apply to you, you are not eligible to use the tool:

- ✓ Tax filing status is Married Filing Separately
- ✓ You are married and your tax filing status is Head of Household
- ✓ You are filing an amended tax return
- ✓ You are filing a foreign tax return

That means you you'll need to update your information manually, using a copy of your completed 2015 tax return and any supporting documents. If the student's FAFSA is selected for verification, you must submit a tax return transcript available from the IRS.

DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) Students

DACA students are not eligible for Federal Student Financial Aid but may be eligible for State funded grants. The Oregon Student Aid Application (ORSAA) is Oregon's alternative to the FAFSA for Oregon residents who are undocumented. The ORSAA includes the same questions about grade level, state residency, student and family income, etc. that are included in the Federal application.

Students who are documented but have parents who are undocumented should complete the FAFSA. If the parents do not have a Social Security Number, they should use 000-00-0000 to complete the FAFSA form. They cannot set up a Federal Student Aid ID (FSAID) in order to sign the application. These parents will print out a signature page and mail it separately through the US Post Office.

Selective Service Inquiry

All U.S. citizens and permanent resident males must register for the selective service when reaching age 18. If the male student has not yet completed this he can do so when completing the FAFSA by checking the "Register Me" box. Male students who do not register are not eligible for Federal Student Aid.