



FAFSA and Federal Student Aid

Introduction to the FAFSA



FAFSA Q&A



Should I apply for financial aid even if I don't think I qualify?

Yes. Many families mistakenly think they don't qualify for aid and prevent themselves from receiving financial aid by failing to apply for it. In addition, there are a few sources of aid such as unsubsidized federal student loans and PLUS loans that are available regardless of need but require that you have completed the FAFSA to be eligible to receive.



Do I need to know what college/university I'm attending before filling out the FAFSA?

No. You can apply for financial aid any time after October 1 for the following academic year. You need to be admitted before the school will put together a package for you and to actually receive funds you must be admitted and enrolled at the university.



Who needs a FAFSA ID?

Students:

You'll need one in order to electronically sign your FAFSA form and to fill out a Renewal FAFSA form.

Borrowers:

You'll need one to electronically sign a Master Promissory Note, complete entrance and exit counseling, apply for an income-driven repayment plan, and more.

Parents:

A dependent student will need to have one of his or her legal parents sign the student's FAFSA form, so the parent needs an FSA ID as well. Parents also need one to apply for a Direct PLUS Loan on StudentAid.gov.

*Students and parents may not share a FAFSA ID, each ID is unique.



How do I get a FAFSA ID?

You can request a FAFSA ID here: [Request a FAFSA ID](#)

Filling out the FAFSA



PREPARING FOR THE FAFSA®

The FAFSA process is quicker and easier when you have a username and password called an FSA ID. (If your parent is providing information on your FAFSA, he or she will need his or her own FSA ID as well.) Learn more about the FSA ID and how to create yours at StudentAid.gov/fsaid.

GATHER THIS INFORMATION

The FAFSA asks questions about you and your finances, so have the information below handy.



Social Security number



Alien registration number



Federal tax information or tax returns



Records of untaxed income



Cash, savings, and checking account balances



Investments other than the home in which you live

DON'T HAVE ALL YOUR INFO READY YET?

That's okay; you can start the FAFSA, save it, and come back later to finish it. (To find out whether you need to report info about your parents, visit StudentAid.gov/dependency.)

FILLING OUT THE FAFSA®

SUBMISSION OPTIONS



Electronic form
(fill out at fafsa.gov)



Mail-in application (download PDF at fafsa.gov or request a printed PDF by calling us at 1-800-433-3243)



Electronic submission by your college or career school
(ask if they can submit the FAFSA for you)

Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It's important to fill it out as soon as possible to meet school and state financial aid deadlines.

MEETING FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES

Each state and school has its own FAFSA deadline. Check a college's or career school's deadline on its website or by calling its financial aid office. Most state deadlines are at fafsa.gov/deadlines.htm.

DID YOU KNOW?

You may be able to retrieve and transfer tax information into the form automatically using the Internal Revenue Service Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT).

PROCESSING THE FAFSA[®]

After you submit your FAFSA, your information will be sent to the colleges and/or career schools you listed on the form.

PROCESS TIMELINE

You'll receive an e-mail within a few days, letting you know your FAFSA was processed.

Your college or career school might request additional information from you. Make sure you respond by any deadlines.

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

You'll receive an aid offer from each college or career school you applied to and listed on your FAFSA, stating the amount of aid you could receive at the school.

Review and compare your offers, and decide which school to attend based on the school's net cost and how well the school suits your needs.

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

You'll receive an aid offer from your school stating the amount of aid you could receive at the school.

RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

Formally accept the school's aid offer - and remember, if you're offered student loans, borrow only as much as you really need.

Your school will handle your aid. Ask the financial aid office when and how your aid will be paid out, what it'll cover, and how much (if any) money will come directly to you once tuition and fees are paid.

Get free assistance and answers at fafsa.gov or 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

Sample Award Letter

Financial Aid

\$39,945

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

	Fall	Spring	Total
Faculty Scholarship	\$15,500	\$15,500	\$31,000
Federal Pell Grant	\$1,323	\$1,322	\$2,645
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)	\$400	\$400	\$800

LOANS

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$3,500
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000

Estimated Cost of Attendance

\$61,826

DIRECT BILLABLE COSTS

	Fall	Spring	Total
Tuition	\$23,085	\$23,085	\$46,170
Fees	\$180	\$180	\$360
Room/Housing	\$4,010	\$4,010	\$8,020
Meals/Meal Plan	\$2,688	\$2,688	\$5,376

INDIRECT COSTS

Book/Supplies	\$550	\$550	\$1,100
Transportation	\$225	\$225	\$450
Other Educational Costs	\$175	\$175	\$350

Total Estimated Balance

\$21,881

ESTIMATED MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

\$2,188

10 payments per year

\$1,823

12 payments per year

DEPOSIT NOW

METHODS OF PAYMENT



NHHEAF

New Hampshire Higher Education
Assistance Foundation

www.nhheaf.org

NHHEAF Financial Aid Presentation

[Financial Aid](#)

Schedule a NHHEAF FAFSA Appointment

[FAFSA Filing Appointment](#)

NHHEAF FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Tuesday, October 18th

6:00 pm

Stockbridge Theater