



# 2020 - 2021 GUIDE TO APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

## FSA ID

- Your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID serves as a legal signature for Federal Student Aid's online systems.
- Both the parent and the student will need to create an FSA ID. To create a self-selected username and password, you will need your **SSN, phone number, and email**. Be sure to record your username and password in a secure place.
- Important Notes
  - The parent and student cannot have the same email address.
  - Your FSA ID never expires, therefore, you should use an email that you will have continued access to (not your Bolles email).
- Website: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

## FAFSA

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required by all colleges and universities to apply for financial aid.
- You can apply starting on October 1st each year and will need to re-apply each year that you wish to receive federal aid.
- Will need taxes/earnings from 2019, checking/savings accounts data, investment data, etc..
- If eligible, you should use the Data Retrieval Tool which transfers tax info directly from IRS data to the FAFSA and satisfies federal verification for tax-based questions.
- Important Notes
  - Select the correct year. Current seniors should select "Start 2021-2022 FAFSA"
  - Students should always say Yes to "Are you interested in being considered for work-study?"
  - You can list up to ten colleges on the FAFSA.
- Website: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

## SAR

- The Student Aid Report (SAR) is a summary of the information you reported on your FAFSA and includes your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
- Available to view a few days after submitting the FAFSA. **Review your SAR to ensure successful FAFSA completion.**
- If necessary, this is where you will add additional colleges or make any corrections to your FAFSA.
- Website: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

## CSS Profile

- The CSS Profile is required by some private colleges and scholarships. (Complete list: <https://profile.collegeboard.org/profile/ppi/participatingInstitutions.aspx>)
- You will sign-in using your existing College Board credentials.
- You will need your most recently completed tax returns, W-2 forms and other records of current year income, records of untaxed income and benefits, assets, and bank statements.
- Each member school has its own questions and requirements and, therefore, must be submitted individually.
- Website: <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

## Additional Notes

- Each college and university has its own financial aid deadline for the FAFSA and CSS Profile that differs from the admission deadline. Please make a note of the priority filing deadlines for each of your institutions based on your decision plan (Early Action, Early Decision, Regular Decision, etc.).
  - For the FAFSA you typically want to submit well before the date to ensure that the federal processor has time to analyze and send your results to Financial Aid offices.
- Priority FAFSA Filing Deadlines for Popular In-state Institutions
  - Florida State University - December 1st
  - The University of Central Florida - December 1st
  - The University of Florida - December 15th
- Once you've submitted your FAFSA and CSS Profile (if applicable) all questions should be directed to the individual institutions' financial aid offices. Financial Officers at the specific institutions are the most equipped to handle the nuances of your specific application.