

Here's what you need to know about the new FAFSA

Photo courtesy of Federal Student Aid

It's officially FAFSA season.

Federal Student Aid **soft launched the 2024–25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** form on Dec. 31, 2023 with some big changes for students, families, and counselors.

Students who plan to attend college between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025 need to **complete the form.**

During the soft launch, **the FAFSA form will be available periodically** as Federal Student Aid monitors site performance, conducts planned pauses for maintenance, and makes updates to improve the user experience for students and families.

According to a press release, “If you do submit your form during the soft launch, your information will be saved, and **you won't need to resubmit your form or any related information.** If your form is unavailable when you or your family members try to access it, please try again later.”

Applicants may also experience a waiting room feature, which will help control website traffic to ensure optimal performance of the form.

[Read more about the changes to the FAFSA.](#)