

2021-2022

FAFSA Checklist



Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at **studentaid.gov** to apply for federal, state, and college-based financial aid.

Dependent students must include both student and parent data on the FAFSA. Determine your dependency status by answering the questions on the back.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

WHERE TO FIND IT

<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent 2019 Federal Income Tax Forms and, if applicable, Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	Personal records or visit irs.gov/transcript
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent 2019 W-2 Forms	Personal records or contact your employer(s) or visit irs.gov/transcript
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent Federal Student Aid usernames and passwords	Create student and parent accounts at studentaid.gov
<input type="checkbox"/> Student's driver's license number	Personal records
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent email addresses	Student: _____ Parent: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent Social Security numbers	Personal records or call the Social Security Administration at 800-772-1213
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent dates of birth	Parent 1: ___/___/___ Parent 2: ___/___/___ <small>Month Day Year Month Day Year</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> Date parents were married, separated, divorced, or widowed	___/___ <small>Month Year</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent savings/checking account balances	Student: \$ _____ Parent: \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student and parent investments (i.e. stocks/bonds/mutual funds/529 plans) excluding home and retirement	Student: \$ _____ Parent: \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Current business value	\$ _____ or contact your accountant
<input type="checkbox"/> Current value of investment farm and/or rental properties	\$ _____ or contact your accountant
<input type="checkbox"/> 2019 Child support paid or received	\$ _____ or contact Nebraska Payment Center at 877-631-9973 or https://childsupport.nebraska.gov
<input type="checkbox"/> 2019 Workers' compensation benefits	\$ _____ or contact your employer
<input type="checkbox"/> 2019 Housing/food/living allowance for military and clergy	\$ _____ or reference Leave and Earnings Statement (military) or W-2 form (clergy)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2019 Veteran's noneducation benefits	\$ _____ or contact Department of Veterans Affairs toll free at 844-698-2311 or va.gov
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number for eligible non-citizens	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services at uscis.gov

DEPENDENCY STATUS QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions to determine if parental data is needed on your FAFSA.

If you answer “no” to every question, you are dependent and must provide parental information on the FAFSA.

If you answer “yes” to any question, you are independent and should not include parental information on the FAFSA.

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|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | Were you born before January 1, 1998? |
| Yes | No | Are you married? |
| Yes | No | Will you be working on a master’s or doctorate program at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year? |
| Yes | No | Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or currently serving on active duty? |
| Yes | No | Do you now have, or will you have, children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022? |
| Yes | No | Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2022? |
| Yes | No | At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court? |
| Yes | No | As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor? |
| Yes | No | Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? |
| Yes | No | At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? |
| Yes | No | At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? |
| Yes | No | At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? |



Omaha
402.391.4033
888.357.6300

Lincoln
402.475.5222
800.303.3745

Kearney
308.234.6310
800.666.3721

Scottsbluff
308.708.7199
800.303.3745
ext. 6654

Your Journey to College Begins with Us



THE 2021-2022 FAFSA - WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Filing the FAFSA is a critical first step in the financial aid process, but not the last. Understanding what happens next, and when, will make navigating the rest of the process easier!

What Happens After I Submit My FAFSA?

Your FAFSA will be processed in 1-3 days. If you provided a valid email address, an email will be sent notifying you that your FAFSA has been processed and will include a link to your Student Aid Report (SAR).

What Do I Need to Do Next?

REVIEW YOUR STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR)

- Once your FAFSA has been processed, an email that includes a link to view your SAR will be sent to your email address (so long as you provided one and it was valid). You'll need to log in with your (the student's) FSA ID (username and password) to view your SAR.
- Review your SAR carefully to check for and correct any errors.
- If you used the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to transfer your tax information into your FAFSA, that data will not be visible. The information comes directly from the IRS and does not need to be reviewed.

MAKE CORRECTIONS OR ADD ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS, IF NECESSARY

- To make corrections or add additional schools, go to [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) and "Log In" under Returning User. Next, click on "I am the student" and provide your (the student's) FSA ID. Click on "Make FAFSA Corrections," create a save key, and add or correct required information. Once complete, submit your updated FAFSA.

WATCH FOR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM YOUR SCHOOL(S)

- Your school(s) may ask you to verify the information you provide on your FAFSA. This process is referred to as verification and does not mean you did anything wrong!
- Activate your student portal and school email for all of the schools you listed on your FAFSA. This is the primary way you will receive updates and information from the Financial Aid Office.

KEEP THESE THINGS IN MIND

- Your SAR may list your estimated eligibility for Federal Pell Grants and/or Federal Direct Student Loans. These are the only types of aid that can be estimated when filing the FAFSA.
- You will find out about any other types of aid you are offered in the financial aid notification that will come directly from your school after you have been offered admission.
- You can always check your FAFSA status or access your SAR by logging into [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) with your FSA ID. To access your SAR, click on the "Student Aid Report" link.

When Will I Receive My Financial Aid Offer?

Most schools will not begin sending financial aid notifications until February. Also, you must be accepted for admission before the school will offer financial aid. For most students, there will be a gap in time from when the FAFSA is submitted until a financial aid notification is sent.

What Should I Do Once I Receive My Financial Aid Notifications?

- If you are applying to multiple schools, thoroughly review and compare your financial aid offers from all schools before making a final decision about which school to attend. Keep in mind the school with the highest tuition and fees may not be the most expensive.
- Use FAME's "Comparing Costs & Financial Aid Offers" on the back of this sheet to help you get an "apples-to-apples" comparison of the offers you have received.

HAVE QUESTIONS? Watch our informational videos, search for scholarships and learn more about comparing financial aid offers at FAMEMaine.com/Education.

COMPARING COSTS & FINANCIAL AID OFFERS

Use this worksheet to compare estimated college costs and financial aid offers. Find the information you need to complete this worksheet in your financial aid notification or your school's website. Costs and financial aid offers can vary significantly from one college or university to another.

College Name	Example	School 1	School 2	School 3
	School X			
Direct Costs to Attend				
Tuition & Mandatory Fees	\$10,600			
Room & Board	+\$9,297	+	+	+
Direct Costs (Billed by School)	- \$19,897	=	=	=
Financial Aid: Grants & Scholarships				
Grants & Scholarships	- \$8,730	-	-	-
Net Cost Before Loans	- \$11,167	=	=	=
Financial Aid: Loans				
Federal Direct Subsidized loan	\$3,500			
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	+\$2,000	+	+	+
Total Loan Amount¹	- \$5,500	=	=	=
Estimated Total Cost				
Balance Due (Direct Costs minus grants, scholarships, & loans)	= 5,667	=	=	=
Indirect Costs (Books, supplies, travel)	+\$1,500	+	+	+
Estimated Total Cost² (Out-of-pocket cost)	- \$7,167	=	=	=
Financial Aid - Work Study				
Work Study	\$1,500			

¹ Most schools do not list Federal PLUS or private loan eligibility as part of the offer, as these loans are credit-based and may not be approved for everyone. If PLUS or private loan eligibility is listed, please exclude for the purposes of comparing offers.

² Estimated Total Cost would be the amount paid by the student and/or the student's family using savings, outside scholarships and/or loans.

³ Federal Work Study funds are earned throughout the year so are not available to help pay the fall balance.