

# How to Apply for FAFSA in 8 Steps!

Completing the FAFSA® form is the first step to obtaining federal student aid to pay for your higher education. Follow these eight simple steps to set you up for success and submit it on time.

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## CREATE A FSA ID

An FSA ID is a username and password you need to sign the FAFSA form online. It takes about 10 minutes to create an FSA ID. If this will be your first time filling out the FAFSA form, you'll be able to use your FSA ID right away to sign and submit your FAFSA form online. If this is not your first time filling out the FAFSA form, you may need to wait 1-3 days to verify your info before you can use your FSA ID to renew your FAFSA form and sign it online. \*\*Your guardian will also need to create an FSA ID



## START THE FAFSA® FORM AT FAFSA.GOV.STUDENTAID.GOV

The 2023-2024 FAFSA form launched October 1! Even if your state and school deadlines aren't for a while, you should complete the FAFSA form as soon as possible because some states and schools run out of financial aid early and have limited funds. Don't wait until the last minute to apply!

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## FILL OUT THE STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION

This is information such as your name, date of birth, etc. Make sure you enter your personal information exactly as it appears on your Social Security card. (That's right, no nicknames.)



## LIST THE SCHOOLS TO WHICH YOU WANT YOUR FAFSA® INFORMATION SENT

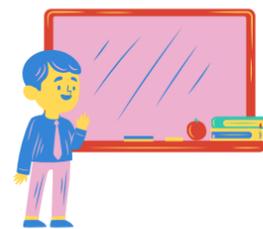
In the School Selection section, add every school you're considering, even if you haven't applied or been accepted yet. It doesn't hurt your application to add more schools; colleges can't see the other schools you've added. In fact, you don't even have to remove schools if you later decide not to apply or attend. If you don't end up applying or getting accepted to a school, the school can just disregard your FAFSA form. But, you can remove schools at any time to make room for new schools. You can add up to 10 schools at a time.

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## ANSWER THE DEPENDENCY STATUS QUESTIONS

In the dependency status section, you'll be asked a series of specific questions to determine whether you are required to provide parent information on the FAFSA form. If you are determined to be a dependent student, you'll be required to report information about your parent(s). If you're determined to be an independent student, you won't have to provide parent information and you can skip the next step.



## FILL OUT THE PARENT DEMOGRAPHICS SECTION

This is where your parent(s) will provide basic demographic information. Remember that it doesn't matter if you don't live with your parent(s); you still must report information about them if you were determined to be a dependent student in the step above.

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## SUPPLY YOUR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Here is where you and your parent(s) (if applicable) will provide your financial information. This step is incredibly simple if you use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT). The IRS DRT allows you to import your IRS tax information into the FAFSA form with just a few clicks. Using this tool also may reduce the amount of paperwork you need to provide to your school. So if you're eligible, use it!



## SIGN AND SUBMIT YOUR FAFSA FORM

You're not finished with the FAFSA form until you (and your parent, if you're a dependent student) sign it. The quickest and easiest way to sign your FAFSA form is online with your FSA ID.

Note: If you (the student) logged in to the FAFSA form with your FSA ID at the beginning, you won't need to provide it again on this page. But, if you're a dependent student, your parent will still need to sign before you can completely submit.

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\*\*\*Students can register for an appointment by using the following link:  
Virtual Coaches Support: [Click Here](#)

SNSIHS Counseling

