

2025-2026 FAFSA Filing



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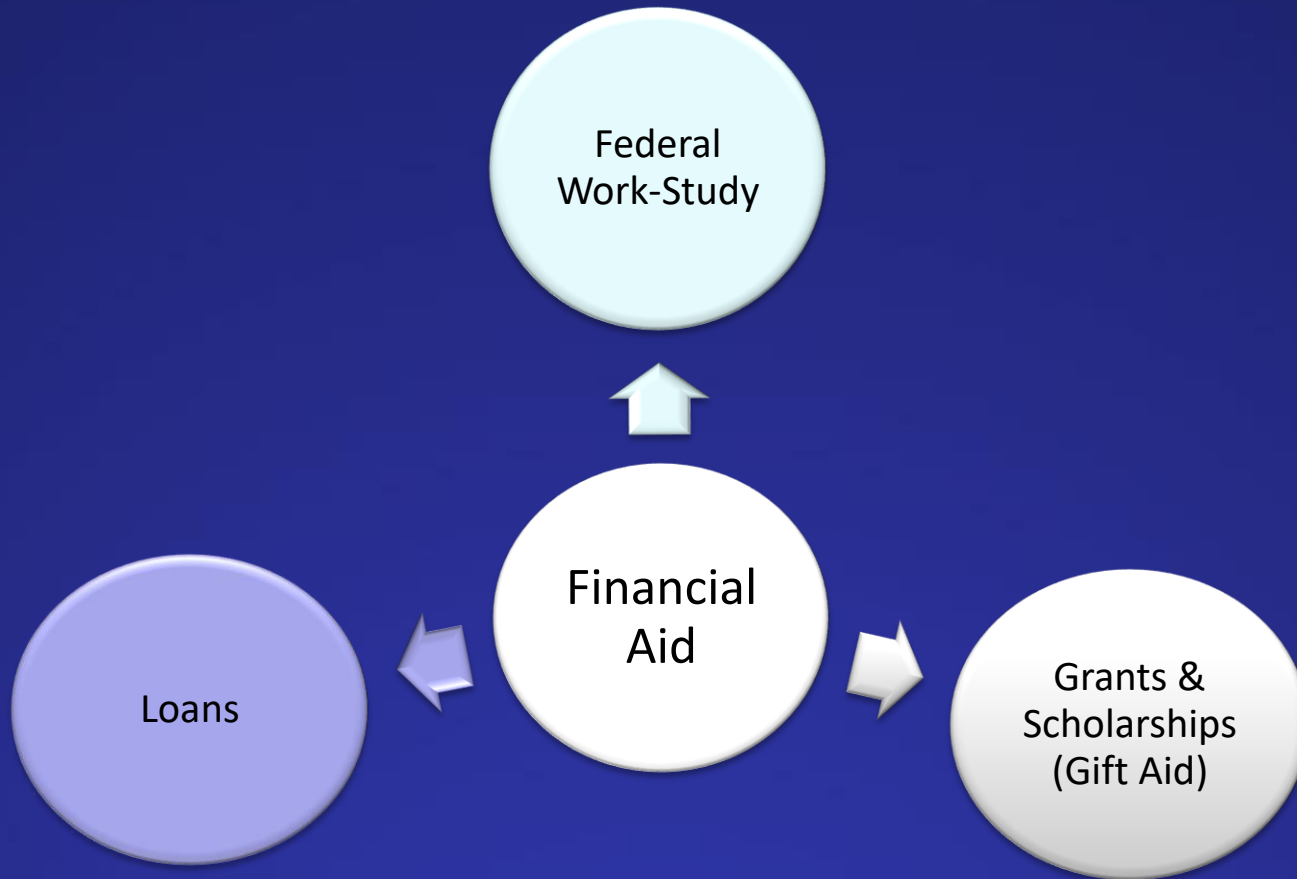
Topics

- Financial Aid Programs
- How and When to Apply
 - Filing the FAFSA
- Helpful FAQs, Tips, & Resources
 - Questions and Answers



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What is Financial Aid?



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Federal Work Study

(FWS)

- Eligibility determined through the FAFSA
- Most jobs worked on campus & hours are based on student schedule
- Students earn wages
 - *Funds are not applied to a student's billing account*
- Part-time jobs or UG Assistantships
- Earn more than just a degree!
- Valuable networking opportunities



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Gift Aid

- Scholarships
 - Institutional/Outside
- Grants
 - Institutional
 - Federal Pell
 - Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
 - N.Y.S. Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)



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Loans

- **Federal Education Loans**
2024-2025 rates
 - Stafford Loans
Subsidized and Unsubsidized
(6.53% interest rate, 1.057% orig. fee)
 - Parent Plus Loan
(9.08% interest rate, 4.228% orig. fee)
- Alternative/Personal Student Loans
(variable rates and terms)
- Home Equity Loan



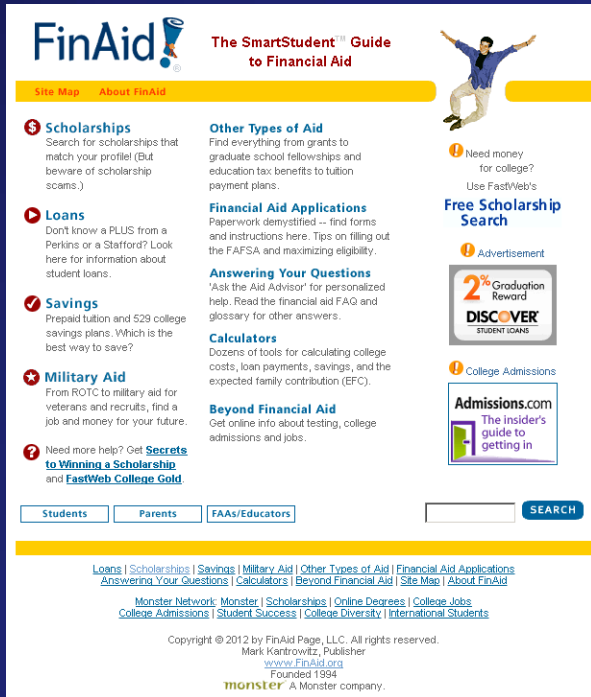
Note: 2025-2026 rates will be available July 1st 2025



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Scholarship Search Sites

Finaid.org



The screenshot shows the FinAid.org homepage. At the top, it says "FinAid! The SmartStudent™ Guide to Financial Aid" with a cartoon character jumping. Below this is a navigation bar with "Site Map" and "About FinAid". The main content area is divided into several sections: "Scholarships" (search for scholarships that match your profile), "Loans" (don't know a PLUS from a Perkins?), "Savings" (prepaid tuition and 529 college savings plans), "Military Aid" (from ROTC to military aid for veterans), and "Need more help? Get [Secrets to Winning a Scholarship](#) and [FastWeb College Grid](#)". There are also links for "Other Types of Aid", "Financial Aid Applications", "Answering Your Questions", "Calculators", and "Beyond Financial Aid". A search bar is at the bottom right.

FinAid! The SmartStudent™ Guide to Financial Aid

[Site Map](#) [About FinAid](#)

Scholarships
Search for scholarships that match your profile! (But beware of scholarship scams.)

Loans
Don't know a PLUS from a Perkins or a Stafford? Look here for information about student loans.

Savings
Prepaid tuition and 529 college savings plans. Which is the best way to save?

Military Aid
From ROTC to military aid for veterans and recruits, find a job and money for your future.

Need more help? Get [Secrets to Winning a Scholarship](#) and [FastWeb College Grid](#).

[Students](#) [Parents](#) [FAAs/Educators](#)

[Loans](#) | [Scholarships](#) | [Savings](#) | [Military Aid](#) | [Other Types of Aid](#) | [Financial Aid Applications](#) | [Answering Your Questions](#) | [Calculators](#) | [Beyond Financial Aid](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About FinAid](#)

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Mark Kantrowitz, Publisher
[www.FinAid.org](#)
Founded 1994
monster A Monster company.

Scholarships.com



The screenshot shows the Scholarships.com homepage. At the top, it says "Scholarships.com® You Find Money. Colleges Find You." with a graduation cap icon. Below this is a navigation bar with "Login", "Contact Us", and social media links. The main content area features a large banner with the text "Find Free College Scholarships Now" and "Over 3.7 Million College Scholarships & Grants Worth Around \$19 Billion". A large orange button says "Click Here To Get Matched".

Scholarships.com®
You Find Money. Colleges Find You.

[Scholarship Search](#) [College Search](#) [List Your Scholarship](#) [Blog](#) [Educators](#)

[See Also](#)

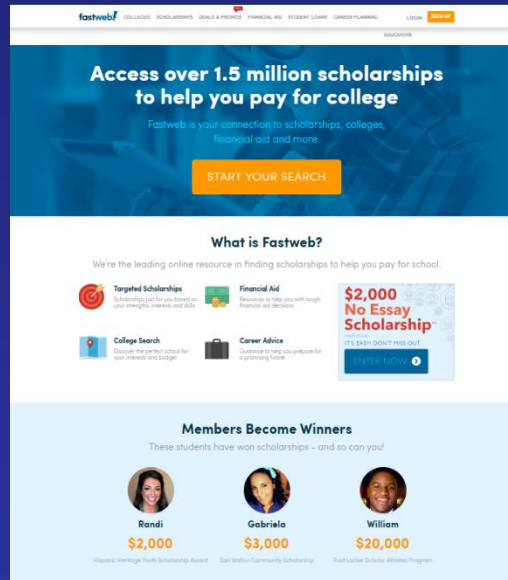
- 1 Student Grants for College
- 2 Easy Scholarships for College
- 3 Grants for College Tuition
- 4 College Scholarships for Women
- 5 Scholarships by State
- 6 Grants and Scholarships for College

Find Free College Scholarships Now

Over 3.7 Million College Scholarships & Grants Worth Around \$19 Billion

[Click Here To Get Matched](#)

Fastweb.com



The screenshot shows the Fastweb.com homepage. At the top, it says "fastweb! COLLEGES SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTS & FINANCIAL AID STUDENT LOANS CAREER PLANNING". Below this is a large banner with the text "Access over 1.5 million scholarships to help you pay for college" and "Fastweb is your connection to scholarships, colleges, financial aid and more." A large orange button says "START YOUR SEARCH". Below the banner, there are sections for "What is Fastweb?", "Targeted Scholarships", "Financial Aid", "College Search", and "Career Advice". At the bottom, there is a section for "Members Become Winners" with three student profiles: Randi (\$2,000), Gabriela (\$3,000), and William (\$20,000).

fastweb! COLLEGES SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTS & FINANCIAL AID STUDENT LOANS CAREER PLANNING

Access over 1.5 million scholarships to help you pay for college

Fastweb is your connection to scholarships, colleges, financial aid and more.

[START YOUR SEARCH](#)

What is Fastweb?

We're the leading online resource in finding scholarships to help you pay for school.

- Targeted Scholarships**
Scholarships just for you based on your strengths, interests and skills.
- Financial Aid**
Resources to help you with tough financial aid decisions.
- College Search**
Discover the perfect school for your interests and budget.
- Career Advice**
Guidance to help you prepare for a promising future.

\$2,000 No Essay Scholarship
It's easy. Don't miss out!
[ENTER NOW](#)

Members Become Winners

These students have won scholarships - and so can you!

- Randi**
\$2,000
Hofstra Heritage Youth Scholarship Award
- Gabriela**
\$3,000
San Antonio Community Scholarship
- William**
\$20,000
Fastweb.com Scholar Winner Program

*Note: Links are provided as a general information resource. The links provided are maintained by their respective organizations and they are solely responsible for their content. Hofstra does not favor one link over the other, nor does Hofstra endorse or profit, in whole or in part, from any products or services offered or promoted by any of the websites whose links appear.



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New York State Programs

- Apply at www.hesc.ny.gov (link at end of FAFSA)
- Students & Parents must be NYS residents
- Must be enrolled in NYS approved college
- Must meet other qualifications depending on award(s)

- TAP (Tuition Assistance Program)
- New York Achievement & Investment in Merit Scholarship
- STEM Incentive Program
- Math & Science Teaching Incentive Program
- Excelsior Program



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CSS PROFILE by the College Board

- The PROFILE is an application used to award institutional funds (Not all colleges/universities participate)
- Application is separate from the FAFSA
- Available after October 1st. Deadlines are specified by participating colleges/programs. Suggested filing date is two weeks before college's deadline
- Cost = \$25 for initial report, \$16 each additional report
- Available at <https://student.collegeboard.org/profile>



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Helpful Tool

- Tool to assist in planning coming soon.
Visit www.hofstra.edu/saiestimate or scan QR code



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Important Note

- The application is set to become available on December 1, 2024.
- To get prepared, you can make an FSA ID for your student ahead of time. This can be done on studentaid.gov.
- FSA ID for parent can also be created. If parents file taxes married but separate – BOTH parents will need an ID.
- The data tax exchange tool will be mandatory, if you do not use it, your student will not be eligible for need-based aid.



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FSA ID

- Create your FSA ID as soon as possible
- It can take 3-5 business days to verify this information
- Setting up multi-factor verification
- Back up code will only be sent once so save it in a safe place



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FAFSA Tip

Should I hire a consultant to help me file the FAFSA?

- We do not recommend paying a fee when you can get the help you need, right from the source, for free.
- Specialized FAFSA representatives are available to assist you step-by-step through the application at 1-800-4-FEDAID (1-800-433-3243) or by clicking the “Live Help” button to chat with a FAFSA representative.



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FAFSA Tips

What are some common mistakes students and families make when completing the FAFSA?

- Not asking for help, call 1-800-4-FEDAID, utilize the FAFSA online chat, or use the self-service buttons throughout the FAFSA
- File the correct FAFSA for the correct aid year
- Do not use nicknames- use the name as spelled on the SS card
- Use correct Social Security numbers and date of births
- Do not list parent information under the student section
- Make sure both student and parent signatures go through
- If your address has changed, update your admission application



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Financial Aid Timeline

2025-2026

September - December of Senior Year in HS

- Student and one parent apply for FSA ID
studentaid.gov/FSAID
- File Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Available as of December 2024 www.studentaid.gov
- NYS Residents- File Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application
Available as of December 2024 www.HESC.ny.gov
- College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile Application
Available October 1, not required by Hofstra
 - Apply for outside scholarships



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Financial Aid Timeline

January- March

- Please file your FAFSA by [February 1](#)
- Colleges/universities begin to send out financial aid award packages (FAFSA filing deadlines and timing of award notifications will vary between schools)
 - Complete verification (if required) and other requested forms (proof of citizenship, etc.)

April-May

- Pay tuition/housing deposits and accept/decline financial aid by the National Candidate Reply Date of [May 1](#)
- Complete loan applications and requirements after [May 1](#)



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Who is eligible for Federal Aid?

- U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens, such as permanent residents, are eligible to file the FAFSA and receive Federal Aid
- Students must have a valid Social Security Number
 - If a parent does not have a SSN, enter zeroes on the FAFSA
- Deferred Action (DACA) students are not eligible to file a FAFSA and are not eligible for federal financial aid.



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Why file the FAFSA?

- It's free!
- It determines eligibility for federal grants, loans and work study
- Some states, including New York, require it as the first part of an application process for financial aid from that state
- Some colleges and private organizations require it for consideration of scholarships and grants



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What will you need to file the FAFSA?

Collect the documents needed for both the student and parent(s):

- All sources of **2023** taxed and untaxed income such as income tax returns, W2 forms, benefit statements, etc.
Use the IRS Data Retrieval to simplify the process!
- Asset information such as your **most recent** bank statements, investments, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.
- Social Security numbers
- Student driver's license (if applicable)
- Alien registration number (if applicable)



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FAFSA FAQs

Q. Can a student choose to report 2024 information?

A. No; you must report info for the year the FAFSA asks for

- Remember: Certain items on FAFSA are “as of today,” so you must read each question and fill out accordingly
- If questions are answered incorrectly, your FAFSA could be selected for Verification

Q. What if my family’s financial situation changed since 2023?

A. Speak with the colleges you are accepted to and add on your FAFSA
Each school may handle these situations differently
Most colleges have a special form/process for this



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Adding Contributors

2 of 4

Contributors to the FAFSA® Form



Parents or Spouses

Your answers on the FAFSA form will determine if any contributors need to be identified. These contributors will complete their own sections of the form and are asked to provide personal and financial information, but will not become financially responsible for your education.



How to Invite

Contributors will need to log in with their own FSA ID to provide their information. To invite a contributor to your FAFSA form, you'll need to provide their name, date of birth, Social Security number, and email address.

[Information or Documents You May Need](#) ^

You might need the following information or documents as you fill out the FAFSA form:

- Tax returns
- Records of child support received
- Current balances of cash, savings, and checking accounts
- Net worth of investments, businesses, and farms

[Previous](#)[Continue](#)

- For dependent student's parents would be considered a contributor.
- They will get an invite link to the FSA ID to complete their portion once the student has completed theirs.



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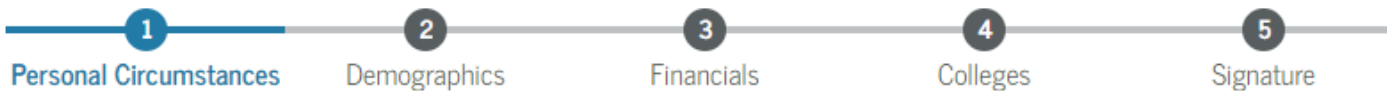
Contributor Consent

- Every Contributor must provide consent and approval for students to be eligible for federal aid programs.
- Consent and approval will also allow the automatic process of the data exchange tool from the IRS to the FAFSA.
- This is required for students to receive any federal aid eligibility.



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Student's Parent Info



Tell Us About the Student's Parents

On the FAFSA® form, the “parent” is the student’s legal (biological or adoptive) parent.

Are the parents married to each other?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Previous

Continue



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Who is a Parent Contributor?

- **Never Married:** the parent who provided more financial support during the last 12 months. If equal amount of support provided, provide information for parent with greater income and assets.
- **Unmarried and both legal parents live together:** Both legal parents
- **Married:** Both parents
- **Remarried:** Parent and Stepparent
- **Divorced or Separated:** the parent who provided more financial support during the last 12 months. If equal amount of support provided, provide information for parent with greater income and assets.
- **Widowed:** Surviving Parent



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How to Input Parent Info

Invite Parent(s) to This FAFSA® Form



We Need Information for One of Your Parents Now

Based on your answers in the previous section, you'll need to provide information about both of your parents on your FAFSA® form. This does not make them financially responsible for your education. Right now, you can invite one or both of your parents to your form and have them complete their required sections.

Enter information about the parent(s) identified on the prior page, and we'll send emails on your behalf.

Provide the parent's full legal name as it appears on their Social Security card. The email does not have to be the same as their account username and password (FSA ID).



Parent

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Month	Day	Year

Social Security Number (SSN)

 Hide

☐ My parent doesn't have an SSN.

Email Address



Parent Spouse or Partner optional

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Month	Day	Year

Social Security Number (SSN)

 Hide

☐ My parent doesn't have an SSN.

Email Address



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Finances

Your Finances

The FAFSA® form helps determine your ability to pay for school. In this section, we ask about your financial information.

What if you have special financial circumstances?

[Previous](#)[Continue](#)

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Student Finances

- Student's will need to input the below information based on the year 2023, please note they cannot be blank, if there is no value, a zero should be entered:
 - IRA rollover
 - Pension rollover into an IRA
 - Amount of College Grants, Scholarships, AmeriCorps benefits reported to the IRS as income
 - Foreign Earned Income Exclusion



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Student Assets

Student Assets

Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts

Don't include student financial aid.

\$		.00
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Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate

Don't include the home the student lives in. Net worth is the value of the investments minus any debts owed against them.

\$		.00
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Current Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms

Enter the net worth of the student's businesses or for-profit agricultural operations. Net worth is the value of the businesses or farms minus any debts owed against them.

\$		.00
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[Previous](#)[Continue](#)

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Assets

Asset net worth means current value of the assets minus what is owed

Assets include:

- Money in cash, savings, and checking accounts
- Businesses
- Investment firms
- Other investments, such as real estate (other than the home in which you live), UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the owner, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc.

Assets do not include:

- The home in which you live
- UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the custodian, but not the owner
- The value of life insurance
- Retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non-education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.)



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FAFSA FAQ

Q. How are 529 plans reported on the FAFSA?

A. 529 plans are reported under the “owner” as an investment, not the beneficiary. If the parent is the owner, it is reported under the parent investment question. If the parent has more than one 529 plan for various members of the family including siblings of the student, the total value of all plans must be reported under the parent.



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Selecting Colleges

Where should we send the FAFSA® information?

Search and select colleges and career schools.

You can add up to 20 colleges and career schools to the FAFSA® form.



0 out of 20 Schools Selected

[View Selected Schools](#)

[Search by School Name](#)

[Search by School Code](#)

State

[Previous](#)

[Continue](#)



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Contributor Invitation

My Activity

Raya Tran Wants Your Help on a FAFSA® Form

Raya Tran has identified you as a parent on their *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form.

Parents are required to provide their financial and demographic information on the student's FAFSA form. This does not make you financially responsible for Raya's educational costs or any federal student loans they decide to accept.

[Visit the 2024-25 FAFSA Help Center](#)

Accept Invitation

Decline Invitation



By accepting this invitation, you agree to share your personal and contact information from your StudentAid.gov account on the student's FAFSA form. Once you accept, your information will be linked to this form.



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Parent Information

- Parent's will confirm general information such as date of birth, address, phone number, etc.
- Parents will then be asked to approve consent of sharing their 2023 tax information through the data exchange.
- If consent is not given, student's will only be eligible for the Direct Unsubsidized loan.



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Parent Financials

- Federal Programs that you may have received benefits from (SSI, SNAP, WIC, Medicaid, etc)
- Confirming Family Size from 2023 taxes
- Number of family members in college (not including parents)
- Asset information:
 - IRA, pension
 - Child support
 - Cash/checking/savings
 - Business Investments/investment Net Worth



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Helpful Links for Financial Aid Resources:

- Hofstra Aid: hofstra.edu/sfs
- Federal: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>
- NY State: www.hesc.ny.gov
- General: www.finaid.org

Note: Links are provided as a general information resource for the use of visitors to the web site. The links provided are maintained by their respective organizations and they are solely responsible for their content. Hofstra does not favor one link over the other, nor does Hofstra endorse or profit, in whole or in part, from any products or services offered or promoted by any of the web sites whose links appear.



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Questions?



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