

FAFSA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the FAFSA?

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is a form students fill out to apply for financial aid for college or career school. This includes grants, work-study, and loans.

2. Who should complete the FAFSA?

Any student planning to attend college, university, or trade school after high school should complete the FAFSA—even if you're unsure whether you'll qualify for aid.

3. When should I submit the FAFSA?

The FAFSA opens each year on **October 1st**. It's best to submit it as early as possible to increase your chances of receiving aid.

4. Is there a cost to complete the FAFSA?

No! The FAFSA is always FREE.

You should **never pay** to fill out or submit the FAFSA. If a website asks for payment, it's not the official FAFSA site. Use <https://studentaid.gov> to complete your application safely.

5. What information do I need to complete the FAFSA?

You'll need:

- Your Social Security number
- Your family's tax information (usually from the previous year)
- School codes for the colleges you're applying to

6. Do I need to complete the FAFSA every year?

Yes. You must submit a new FAFSA for each school year you plan to attend college or career school.

7. What if my family's financial situation has changed?

You can still complete the FAFSA and then contact your school's financial aid office to explain your situation. They may be able to adjust your aid.