



Financial Aid Application Checklist

What you need to complete the 2027/2028 FAFSA or WASFA application

STEP 1: ACCOUNT CREATION

Create your studentaid.gov or WASFA accounts (Parent/Contributors and Students)

- Understand which application to create an account for:
<https://wsac.wa.gov/WASFAelig>
Application links:
 - FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov>
 - WASFA: <https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>
- Determine which parent contributor(s) will create a Studentaid.gov account or WASFA account (if you are a dependent student): [Parent wizard tool](#)
- **Pro tips:** Write everything down on an account creation worksheet, FAFSA page 1, WASFA page 2 ([English](#), [Spanish](#)). Don't use autofill. It will add phantom blank spaces, and it may be difficult to log in.

STEP 2: FAFSA OR WASFA COMPLETION

All Applicants (FAFSA & WASFA) are encouraged to bring or have access to:

- ☐ Your income information. This includes bank statements, 2025 W-2s or pay stubs, and the 2025 tax return. You may not need these if the IRS successfully imports your data.
 - ☐ Download your tax documents, if you don't have a copy:
<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>
- ☐ Your parent(s)/guardian(s) (contributors), if you are 24 or younger.
- ☐ Your parents/guardians' financial information. Parents/guardians should bring a copy of their 2025 tax return.
- ☐ Additional financial information, such as child support statements, TANF or welfare, real estate, and investments.
- ☐ Family business and/or investment farm financial documents.
- ☐ Net worth of investments, including real estate (not the home you live in, or retirement accounts).
- ☐ List of colleges, universities, professional, and/or technical schools
 - ☐ You should bring a list (up to 20 schools) that you would like the FAFSA or WASFA to connect to. ([Complete list with school codes](#) to reference)
- ☐ Email address of a parent/contributor

FAFSA filers must also have access to:

- ☐ Student Social Security Number
- ☐ Parent/guardians' Social Security Number or ITIN (if you have one), Birthdate(s), email address, phone number,
- ☐ The date you became a [resident of WA](#) state (month and year).

For the Following Sections, Only Bring Documents or Information that Applies to You to Create Your Account

- ☐ Social Security Number OR Permanent Resident Number (if applicable)
- ☐ You will need to know your own SSN or A-Number to create a [studentaid.gov](#) account.
- ☐ Student and parent login information for [studentaid.gov](#) account.
- ☐ State ID Card or Driver's License (optional)

Parents/Adoptive Parents (if adopted before 13 yrs of age): Records of Untaxed/Additional Income. *Examples of untaxed income include:*

- ☐ Child Support Payments
- ☐ Interests/Stocks Income
- ☐ Veterans' Benefits
- ☐ Social Security Income Payments
- ☐ Disability Payments/Income
- ☐ Life Insurance Payouts
- ☐ ROTH Retirement Account Income and IRA Income
- ☐ Records of current Cash, Checking, and Savings Accounts

Miscellaneous tips:

- ☐ There is a checkbox if a parent has no Social Security Number (SSN). **Do not provide ITINs or zeros during this step.**
- ☐ Parent Contributors **must consent/agree** to IRS data transfer in order for students to be considered for gift aid (examples: Pell, Washington College Grant, College Bound Scholarship).
- ☐ Financial Aid hub for mixed-status families: [FAFSA Hub - Presidents' Alliance \(higheredimmigrationportal.org\)](#)
- ☐ You (the student) may qualify to complete the FAFSA if you are any of the following:
 - ☐ U.S. citizen.
 - ☐ U.S. permanent resident with a Permanent Resident Card (also known as a "Green Card").
 - ☐ U.S. national (including American Samoa or Swains Island).

- ☐ Citizen of the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia.
- ☐ T-Visa holder.
- ☐ A person with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) status.
- ☐ A person with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing any of the following:
 - ☐ Refugee
 - ☐ Asylum Granted
 - ☐ Cuban-Haitian Entrant
 - ☐ Conditional Entrant (if issued before April 1, 1980)
 - ☐ Parolee (you must be paroled for at least one year, and you must be able to show that you are in the United States for other-than-temporary reasons with the intention of becoming a U.S. citizen or permanent resident)