



How Students and Parents Should Prepare to Complete the 2027-28 FAFSA

To complete the 2027-2028 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA), be prepared with the following information and/or documents:

- Federal Student Aid ID (username and password) for student and at least one parent
 - Go to <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account> to create your FSA ID
 - You will need your Social Security Number (SSN) to create an FSA ID
- Alien Registration number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- Federal tax information or tax returns from 2025 for student and parents (if student is considered 'dependent'):
 - --IRS 1040, and all Schedules
 - --Foreign tax return
- Records of untaxed income for 2025, such as child support received, interest income, and veterans noneducation benefits for student and parents (if student is considered 'dependent')
- Records of Assets including current total of cash, savings, and checking accounts, current net worth of investments including real estate (not including the home you live in)
 - *Net worth is the value of your investments minus any debts owed against them*
- Parent's personal email address (to invite parent to contribute to student FAFSA)

For assistance and more information from Stand By Me NexGen, visit uwde.org/fafsa or dial/text 211 and ask for Stand By Me NexGen.

NOTE: Each student and at least one parent will need to have an FSA ID **BEFORE** starting the FAFSA; it is the equivalent to setting up an "account" with the Department of Education Federal Student Aid for the purpose of confirming your identity. The FSA ID will be required to start the FAFSA for every year the student is in college or tech/trade school. If parents filed their 2025 taxes 'married filing separately,' then both parents in the home will need their own FSA ID. To begin this process, go to <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account>.

NOTE: The FAFSA is required for all state scholarship programs, including SEED and INSPIRE