**Filling out the FAFSA**

**Visit FAFSA.GOV**

**Gathering the Documents Needed to Apply for the FAFSA**

The FAFSA questions ask for information about you (your name, date of birth, address, etc.) and about your financial situation. Depending on your circumstances (for instance, whether you’re a U.S. citizen or what tax form you used), you might need the following information or documents as you fill out the application:

* Your Social Security number (it’s important that you enter it correctly on the FAFSA form!)
* Your parents’ Social Security numbers if you are a [dependent student](https://studentaid.gov/#dependency)
* Your driver’s license number if you have one
* Your Alien Registration number if you are not a U.S. citizen
* Federal tax information or tax returns including IRS W-2 information, for you (and your spouse, if you are married), and for your parents if you are a dependent student:
  + IRS 1040
  + Foreign tax return, IRS 1040NR, or IRS 1040NR-EZ
  + Tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or Palau
* Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, interest income, and veterans noneducation benefits, for you, and for your parents if you are a dependent student
* Information on cash; savings and checking account balances; investments, including stocks and bonds and real estate (but not including the home in which you live); and business and farm assets for you, and for your parents if you are a dependent student

## Determining Your Dependency Status

The FAFSA form asks a series of questions that determine whether you are a dependent or [independent student](javascript:void(0)) for purposes of applying for federal student aid. If you are a dependent student, you must report parent information, as well as your own information, on your application. If you’re curious, you can [find out now whether you’re a dependent student](https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/dependency).

## Getting Help

If you need help filling out the FAFSA form, use these free tools:

* Select the blue and white question mark icon next to a FAFSA question to view a "tool tip" that provides information about how to answer that question.
* In the online FAFSA form, the tool tip may have a “More Help” link for additional information. You also can select the “Help” button at the bottom of the tool tip to reach the [“FAFSA Help”](https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/help) page, where you can browse FAQs, search for more information, or click on “Contact Us.”
* Once you click on “Contact Us,” you’ll have the option of emailing us with your question or, during business hours, chatting (in English or Spanish) with live technical support staff. (In the myStudentAid mobile app, you can find the contact information via the “hamburger menu”—the three parallel lines at the top right of the screen.)
* Contact the [financial aid office](javascript:void(0)) at the college or career school you plan to attend.

For more information please visit: [Filling Out the FAFSA® Form | Federal Student Aid](https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out)