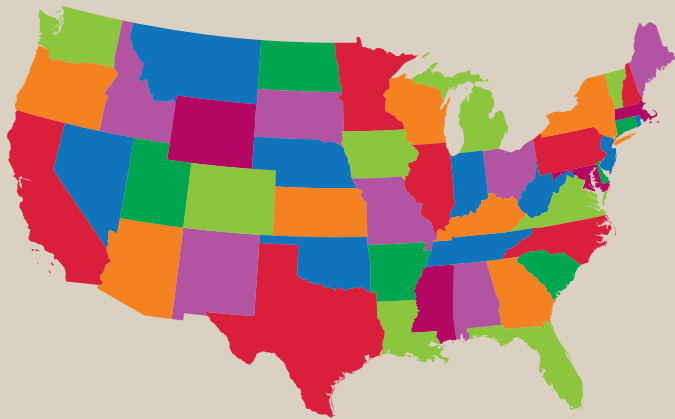


# FAFSA Financial Aid Application Process



**Free Application for  
Federal Student Aid**

**FREE application  
at [FAFSA.GOV](https://fafsa.gov)**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to apply for federal, state and college-based financial aid.

You should file a FAFSA as soon as possible starting October 1. For federal aid, many awards are income-based, so applying early doesn't guarantee you will get an award.

But for Kentucky aid, you should apply as soon as possible starting October 1, because some program funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

## What you will need to file the FAFSA

- ✓ Social Security Number.
- ✓ Alien registration number (if you're not a U.S. citizen).
- ✓ Most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned.
- ✓ Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable).
- ✓ Records of untaxed income (if applicable).
- ✓ An FSA ID to sign forms electronically.
- ✓ If you are a dependent student, you will also need most of the above information for your parent(s).

### TIP:

If you or your parents haven't completed your tax return, file your FAFSA using estimated tax information. But remember, you must correct that information after you file your return.



Apply online at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

The FAFSA is a free form. Students and parents don't need to pay to submit or have the form processed.



## Federal Student ID Aid

## What's an FAFSA ID?

The FSA ID is the username and password you use to log in to and electronically sign your FAFSA.

It also confirms your identity when you access your financial aid information and sign the Federal Student Aid documents at other U.S. Department of Education websites.

Both the student and at least one parent of dependent students will need to create an FSA ID.



### TIP:

Set up active email accounts for both the student and one parent prior to applying for the FSA ID.

## Create your FSA ID



**01**

Visit [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)

**02**

Enter your email address then create a username.

**03**

Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information, and challenge questions and answers.

**04**

Confirm your cell phone number using the secure code, which will be texted to the number you provided.

**05**

Confirm your email address using the secure code, which will be sent to the email address you entered when you created your FSA ID.

### TIPS FOR STEP 3:

You'll have to set two challenge questions on your own.

Examples: mother/father's middle name, high school name or mascot, city of birth.



Apply online at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)

Use your FSA ID to sign a FAFSA right away. Keep track of it since you'll use it frequently throughout the federal student aid application process.