



FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Who should fill out the FAFSA?

- Students planning to attend college next Fall, should fill out the FAFSA for next school year.
- In addition, Seniors planning to start college next semester or next summer, should fill out the FAFSA for the current school year.

What documents do I need to fill out the FAFSA?

- Tax information from 2019, including W2's (student and parent)
- Records of any benefits you receive from the government
- Records of any untaxed income
- Bank statements and records of investments
- FSAid (student and parent)...more about this on the next slide...

Where

Where do I start?

fsaid.ed.gov

- student creates a username and password
- parent creates a username and password
- each is linked to the person's SSN and personal email address
- REMEMBER THIS! TAKE A PICTURE! DATE STAMP IT! PUT IT IN YOUR NOTES! WRITE IT DOWN! WRITE IT DOWN AGAIN! TAKE ANOTHER PICTURE! YES, I AM YELLING!
- This is your electronic signature, and the student's ticket into the application

Where do I go to fill out the FAFSA?

fafsa.gov

- The online version is convenient and immediate
- Of course, you can use a paper version if you prefer
- There is also a myStudentAid mobile app

When

do I fill out the FAFSA?

- The FAFSA opens October 1st.
- Each college, university, or program has a priority filing date. This is the date by which they want all of your financial information
- Remember: it is not rocket science, but fill it out early so you won't have to worry.
- Fill it out every year you (or your child) plan(s) to attend college

WHY

should I fill out the FAFSA?

- The Federal Gov't uses the information you put on the FAFSA to determine if you qualify for any federal student aid.
- Most schools use the FAFSA information as a starting point when creating a financial aid package for the student.
- If you choose not to fill out the FAFSA, your school will not consider you for financial aid.
- Some scholarships require a copy of the FAFSA in order to apply.
- If you don't apply for aid, you will not receive it!

What is Federal Student Aid?

- ▶ Money from the federal government (U.S. Department of Education) that helps a student pay for college, career schools, or graduate programs

- ▶ 3 Types of Aid:
 - ▶ **Grants**
 - ▶ **Loans**
 - ▶ **Work Study**

Grants

- ▶ Free money, given on the basis of need, from the U.S. Department of Education that does NOT have to be repaid
- ▶ **Federal Pell Grant**
 - ▶ For undergraduate students with financial need
 - ▶ Current maximum amount is \$6,345
- ▶ **Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**
 - ▶ For undergraduates with exceptional financial need
 - ▶ Up to \$4,000/year

Grants

- ▶ **Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH)**
 - ▶ For students planning to go into a career in education (must be paid back if the student decides not to meet the terms of the grant)
- ▶ **Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant**
 - ▶ For students who do not have enough financial need for a Pell Grant and who lost a parent due to military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after 9/11

Loans

▶ Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest

▶ **Direct Subsidized Loans**

- ▶ Fixed rate, low interest loans based on financial need
- ▶ Government pays interest when student is enrolled in school
- ▶ Up to \$3,500/year

▶ **Direct Unsubsidized Loans**

- ▶ Fixed rate, low interest loans not based on financial need
- ▶ Borrower is responsible for all interest
- ▶ Up to \$2,000/year
- ▶ If a student is not eligible for Subsidized loans, they may be eligible to receive additional more than \$2,000 in Unsubsidized loans

Loans

▶ Direct PLUS Loans

- ▶ For parents of dependent undergraduates and graduate and professional students
- ▶ Fixed rate
- ▶ Maximum amount is the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid received

Work Study

- ▶ It provides part-time employment while you are enrolled in school.
- ▶ It's available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students with financial need.
- ▶ It's available to full-time or part-time students.
- ▶ It's administered by schools participating in the Federal Work-Study Program. Check with your school's *financial aid office* to find out if your school participates.
- ▶ Indicate on your FAFSA that you will consider work study. You can always refuse an offer later, but you might not be able to sign up for work study later.

Review

Who, when, where...

Who is Eligible for Federal Student Aid

- ▶ Financial need (for most programs)
- ▶ Be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
- ▶ Have a valid social security number
- ▶ If male between the ages of 18 and 25, must register with the Selective Service
- ▶ Maintain adequate academic progress while in college or career school
- ▶ Must graduate from high school or be enrolling in an eligible career pathways program

When Should the FAFSA Be Completed?

- ▶ If your child plans to attend college or a career school in the Fall of 2021, you should complete it as soon as possible after it becomes available on October 1st
- ▶ Schools often use the FAFSA information to award non-federal aid
- ▶ Some states use the FAFSA to award state level financial aid
- ▶ If you are graduating in December 2020 and plan to enroll at BRCC in Spring 2021, you can complete the FAFSA for the 2020-21 school year using 2018 tax return info

Getting Started!

**Create your FSA ID at fsaid.ed.gov
(one for the student, one for the parent)**

- ▶ This will be used to confirm your identity and electronically sign your FAFSA documents
- ▶ It is linked to your SSN and your personal email address

Complete the FAFSA at fafsa.gov

- ▶ You can use a paper form if needed, or download the app

Scholarships

Local Scholarships

[SHS School Counseling Website](#)

[Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge](#) (Opens Oct. 1)

University Office of Financial Aid website

[Other local school's websites](#)

Organizations in the Community, including fraternal organizations

Employers

Virginia/National Scholarships

[GRASP](#)

[JLV Counseling](#)

[Big Future](#)

[Scholarships.org](#)

[FastWeb](#)

[CollegeBoard](#)

SO, there are several types of financial aid...

Grants = Free \$\$\$\$ Don't refuse them

Scholarships = Free \$\$\$ Don't refuse them, usually have to apply, sometimes a one-time deal

Work-Study = Work for your \$\$\$\$\$ Consider it

Loans = Borrowed \$\$\$ (your money) + interest (more of your money) Accept or refuse as much or as little as you want/need

Set up an appointment through the counseling department to meet with your GRASP advisor.

- ▶ Free and confidential
- ▶ Learn more about special circumstances and unique situations
- ▶ Fill out the FAFSA
- ▶ Hear more about scholarship opportunities
- ▶ Talk about next steps



SHS GRASP Advisor:

Rebekah Cempe

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Available Mondays for virtual
appointments