Filing the FAFSA

PHEAA
Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

Need money for college
Your Presenter

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An Up-Close Look:

THE FAFSA
Click here for initial FAFSA

Click here for saved applications, corrections, or renewal FAFSA
Where you see the student bar, only enter student information. Parent information goes in a separate section.

Review Help and Hints sections to answer questions.
Enter FSA ID

Enter your info and click “Next”
If no FSA ID, enter this info and click “Next”. Using the FSA ID is recommended, though.
New FAFSA disclaimer user will need to acknowledge

- The Dept. of ED monitors the FAFSA for criminal activity
- Users consent to such monitoring
- Unauthorized use of the FAFSA for commercial or private financial gain is subject to criminal prosecution

Provides a higher level of security for users and helps decrease criminal activity
Select the correct FAFSA year. If starting classes in summer, check with your college.
Can be anything – just so you can get back into the application.

- e.g., the family dog’s name, your favorite color, last 4 of SSN, etc.
More Help Information. If you don’t want to read these help topics, just click “NEXT”.
Student Demographics

Don’t forget middle initial

Use the previous and next buttons within the application
Reminder to complete PA State Grant Form via Link on FAFSA confirmation page
• Male students get the selective service question;
• Answer “yes” to the workstudy question;
Must list and confirm your high school. Easiest to enter city and state and click “confirm”. Then select the correct school.
Note:
Schools will not be able to see all the schools listed on the FAFSA. They can only see themselves.
• List up to 10 schools
• List the school you’re most likely to attend first
• Enter school code or look them up
Click and add schools to your list
Housing Selection

Can change the order (remember to list the school most likely to attend first)

Select Housing Status
All “no” answers = dependent student (most HS students)

Any “Yes” answers = additional questions to determine independent status
Dependent students must provide parent data

Note: If unable to provide parent data, it will be a special circumstance that will be up to the school and PHEAA to determine status.
Parent Demographics

- Marital status (stepparent info is required)
- Parent’s last names must match SSN
- Determine household size and number in college

Bar changes to Parent – Only answer information for the parent(s) here

- As of today, what is the marital status of your parents?
- Married or Remarried
- When did your parents get married or remarried? Enter the month and year (mm/yyyy)
- What is your Parent 1 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) Social Security Number?
- What is your Parent 1 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) last name?
- What is your Parent 1 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) first initial?
- What is your Parent 2 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) Social Security Number?
- What is your Parent 2 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) last name?
- What is your Parent 2 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) first initial?
- What is your Parent 2 (father’s/mother’s/stepparent’s) date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)?
- Your parents’ email address
- Re-enter your parents’ email address
- Have your parents lived in Pennsylvania for at least 5 years?
- Your parents’ number of family members in 2018-2019 (household size)
- Household Size
- How many people in your parents household will be college students between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019? Do not include your parents

Help and Hints
- Parents’ Number in College in 2018-2019 (Parents Excluded) Question 74
- Include:
  - Yourself, even if you will attend college less than halftime in 2018-2019
  - Other people in your parents’ household only if they will attend college at least halftime in 2018-2019, in a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.
- Do not include:
  - Parents who are not household members

Financial Information
- Student Demographics
- School Selection
- Dependency Status
- Parent Demographics
- Confirmation

Sign & Submit
“Already completed” opens up the IRS Data Retrieval window
Link to IRS

Applying is faster and easier with the IRS DRT!

Based on your responses, we recommend that you, the parents, transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows users to link to the IRS Web site and securely transfer original IRS tax return information into their FAFSA.

For your protection, your tax return information will not display on the IRS Web site or on the FAFSA.

If you use the IRS DRT, you may not have to provide additional IRS documentation later to qualify for federal student aid.
Select which parent, enter FSA ID, then click “Proceed to IRS” to leave the FAFSA site.
Complete the address information as it appears on your tax return.

These fields are pre-filled based on FAFSA responses.
IRS DRT Process – Tax Information Transfer Message

List of tax return information that will be transferred if applicant agrees to transfer information.

Then click “Transfer Now”

Click the check-box
Parent Financial information

- **Credits**
  - Education credits
  - Child support paid

- **Untaxed income**
  - (payments to tax-deferred pensions listed on W-2 forms, box 12)
  - Child support received

- **Do not change items “Transferred from the IRS”**
Bar switches back to student

If student did not file or wasn’t required to file, answer appropriately

Student answers questions to determine ability to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Click on Link to IRS
Applying is faster and easier with the IRS DRT!

Based on your responses, we recommend that you transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows users to link to the IRS Web site and securely transfer original IRS tax return information into their FAFSA.

For your protection, your tax return information will not display on the IRS Web site or on the FAFSA.

If you use the IRS DRT, you may not have to provide additional IRS documentation later to qualify for federal student aid.

[LINK TO IRS]
[No Thanks]
Use IRS DRT
(or you can manually enter information)
It will tell you it’s been successful

All items transferred are marked. Do not make changes to these items.

Note: Any corrections to information transferred from IRS will need to be completed by the Financial Aid Office.
Other untaxed income not reported elsewhere – click on the untaxed income button to see what counts

Students list their cash, savings, and investment values as of the date they file the FAFSA
You are not a preparer (that is if you paid someone to do this for you)

Agree to the statement and click “Sign”
Select which parent has the FSA ID

Agree to the statement

Type in their FSA ID

Click “Sign”

Click “Submit My FAFSA Now”
Confirmation Page

Print this page for your records

Shows your EFC, Pell, and Loan

2018-2019 Confirmation Page

Confirmation Number: F12100241905 10/12/2017 15:12:39
Data Release Number (DRN): 0000

Congratulations, Beth! Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid.

Does your brother or sister need to complete a FAFSA? If so, you can transfer your parents’ information into a new FAFSA for your brother or sister to save time. Your parents will have to provide a signature again, but that’s all.

What Happens Next

• In 7-10 business days, we will mail you a Student Aid Report (SAR) notifying you that your FAFSA was processed.
• Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
• Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or when they are ready to discuss your financial aid award.
• If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact your school(s).

School(s) on your FAFSA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Graduation Rate</th>
<th>Retention Rate</th>
<th>Transfer Rate</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALBRIGHT COLLEGE</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCADIA UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility Information

Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 909999
The EFC is a measure of how much you can contribute to the cost of your education. Schools use your EFC to determine your federal student aid eligibility.

The EFC is not how much aid you will receive or how much you have to pay for college.

Based on the eligibility criteria, you may be eligible for the following:

Pell Grant Estimate - $2,370.00
Direct Stafford Loan Estimate - $5,500.00
You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.

In addition, you should learn about federal tax benefits for education, including the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC).

You and your parent(s) indicated that you had filed an IRS tax return when you provided your financial information and it appears that you were eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, which allows you to transfer your IRS tax return information directly into your FAFSA. The benefit of using the tool is that it’s the easiest way to provide accurate tax information, and it also eliminates the need for providing a copy of your and your parents’ tax return to the financial aid office at your college. Once your FAFSA has been processed, you and your parents can return to FAFSA on the Web and use the tool to transfer your tax information.
Click on “Start your state application” to complete the State Grant Form (SGF)

TRANSFER FOTW data to the State Grant Form

First-time filers only
Forms Are Filed...
NOW WHAT?
The Process Continues

Department of Education’s Central Processing System uses the information to calculate and create your Need Analysis

- EFC is calculated
- SAR/ISIR - reports your eligibility for aid to you and your school choices
- Grant eligibility is calculated
- Schools receive your results
- You apply/applied to your school choices
- Once accepted - schools produce Award Letters (aid packages)
- You compare Award Letters
- Determine true costs of school and make choices
Calculations:

THE EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)
Determining Need-Based Eligibility

- Student submits FAFSA
- Family undergoes Need Analysis
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is determined based on:
  - Parent income and assets
  - Student income and assets
  - Family size
  - Number of children in college
  - Age of the older parent
- This is NOT necessarily the amount you will pay each year!
How Is the EFC Calculated?

- EFC formula considers a family’s taxed & untaxed income, assets, size, how many will be attending college, and age of oldest parent
  - Includes allowances for taxes and focuses mainly on income
  - Parent + student contribution = EFC
How Is the EFC Calculated?

- Asset Protection Allowance is applied against parent’s reported assets
  - EFC calculation roughly uses 6% of parent asset contribution and 20% of student contribution
  - Student income contribution used in the calculation: 50% of amounts over $6,570
  - Parent contribution divided by number of children in college at the same time

\[
\text{COA (Cost)} - \text{EFC} = \text{NEED}
\]
Calculations:

COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)
Cost of Attendance (COA)

The Financial Aid Office will include the direct costs in determining the student’s annual cost of attendance at that school:

**Direct College Costs:**
- Tuition
- Required Fees
- Room
- Meals
- Books and Supplies

**Indirect College Costs:**
- Transportation
- Personal Expenses
- Dependent Care Expenses
Calculations:

FINANCIAL NEED & AWARDS

File the FAFSA
Need money for college
Financial Need

Schools/colleges receive financial aid information and calculate financial need

- Financial Aid Office (FAO) “packages” student based on financial need and available funding (varies from school to school)
- Financial aid award letter sent to student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School cost</th>
<th>$26,000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EFC</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Need</td>
<td>$23,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Aid Award Letter

• Official notification from school about financial aid, terms and conditions
• Lists the type and amount of each award to be received
• Describes what must be done to accept or reject any award
• Discloses students rights, responsibilities and academic requirements
Reviewing the Aid Package

• Students and parents should be sure they know and understand the following:
  » How much of the financial aid is free money?
  » Which awards are based on need, and which are based on merit?
  » Are there any conditions on the free money; in particular, is there a GPA requirement?
  » Will awards change from year to year?
  » Will institutional awards increase as tuition increases?
  » Will loans be needed? If so, how much?
Special Circumstances

If things change....

✅ Divorced or separated parents

✅ Stepparents

✅ Adoptive parents

✅ Foster parents

✅ Legal guardians

✅ Living with others

✅ Recent death or disability

✅ Reduced income
Things to Remember

• Get your FSA IDs PRIOR to completing the FAFSA (FAFSA.gov or FSAID.ed.gov)

• File your 2018-19 FAFSA at FAFSA.gov
  • Use the IRS DRT
  • If starting classes in summer, check with your school

• Complete your FAFSA and State Grant Form at the same time

• Meet your school’s priority filing DEADLINES
  • State Grant Deadline is May 1, 2018
  • School Deadlines may be earlier!

• Research costs: mysmartborrowing.org
Resources for filing the FAFSA and SGF

• PHEAA — 800-692-7392
• Federal Student Aid — 800-433-3243 (800-4-FED-AID)
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