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FAFSA: WAYS TO APPLY

To maximize your chances of getting student financial aid, submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1 of the year for which you are requesting aid. If you apply before January 1 or without a Social Security number, your application will not be processed.

There is no charge to submit the FAFSA, and whether you apply via [FAFSA on the Web](#) or use a [paper FAFSA](#) will not affect the funding you receive.

FAFSA on the Web

Submit your FAFSA on the Web (<http://fafsa.ed.gov>) at the U.S. Department of Education's website. You will be prompted to request a personal PIN. After receiving your PIN, instructions to sign the FAFSA electronically will be provided.

Filing via FAFSA on the Web (in English or Spanish) is the fastest and easiest method of applying and offers advantages:

- ▶ Detailed online help screens.
- ▶ Online chat with a customer service representative.
- ▶ Built-in error detectors that reduce the number of rejected applications.
- ▶ Verification that the application was transmitted successfully.
- ▶ Your application should be processed in three to five days, compared to two to four weeks with the paper FAFSA.

Paper FAFSA

Request a paper FAFSA by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or 1-319-337-5665. If you are hearing impaired, please contact the TTY line at 1-800-730-8913.

Carefully complete the paper application and mail it in the preaddressed envelope that's in your FAFSA packet. Fill out and include the return post card, so you know when your FAFSA has been received.

COLLECT NECESSARY INFORMATION WHEN YOU'RE READY TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA

- ▶ Student and parent Social Security numbers
- ▶ Driver's license or state ID number
- ▶ Alien registration (if non U.S. citizen)
- ▶ Marital status (single, divorced, etc.)
- ▶ Enrollment status
- ▶ Degree or certificate you will be working on
- ▶ Previous year's tax information or tax returns, including W-2
- ▶ Records of untaxed income (welfare, veteran benefits, etc.)
- ▶ Information on savings, investments, business, and farm assets.
- ▶ Number of people in household
- ▶ Email addresses

IMPORTANT

FAFSA.com is not affiliated with the U.S. Department of Education or FAFSA on the Web. The correct address for the U.S. Department of Education's free FAFSA Web site is <http://fafsa.ed.gov>.