

Filing the FAFSA

What you need to know

When to apply

If you're starting college in Academic Year 2020-2021, you can submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) **beginning October 1, 2019**.

What you need

A copy of your and/or your family's 2018 tax return.

Why the FAFSA

The FAFSA gives you access to federal loans, as well as any available state and college aid. Even if your family thinks they know what you'll qualify for, it's always a good idea to submit an application to make sure you don't walk away from financial aid.

Things to remember

Financial aid dates are different than college admission dates. States and colleges may also have different financial deadlines than the FAFSA. Be sure to check fafsa.ed.gov for your state's deadlines and your colleges' websites for their deadlines.

FAFSA submission time frames and tax information*

College Academic Year Fall 2020 Spring 2021	College Academic Year Fall 2021 Spring 2022	College Academic Year Fall 2022 Spring 2023
Submit your FAFSA beginning October 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020	Submit your FAFSA beginning October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021	Submit your FAFSA beginning October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022
Use your income tax info from 2018	Use your income tax info from 2019	Use your income tax info from 2020

Want to know more? Visit SallieMae.com/CollegePlanning