Federal Student Aid FAFSA



If student answers YES to any one of the following questions, student is considered <u>Independent</u>.

If student answers NO to all of the following questions, student is considered <u>Dependent</u>.*

Y/N

- Age 24 or older by Dec. 31st of the award year
- Married
- Working on a master's or doctorate degree
- Current active member or veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Have children or dependents (other than a spouse) who received more than half of their support from you
- Anytime since turning 13, was in foster care, a ward or dependent of the court or both parents deceased
- Emancipated minor or in a legal guardianship as determined by a court
- An unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of being homeless

*If you are a <u>Dependent</u> student you will need most of the information below for your parent(s).

Confused about your dependency status? Let us know!

What Do You Need?

To complete the FAFSA application, you will need:

- Social Security Number or Alien Registration Number*
- 2020 federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned (e.g., IRS 1040, etc.)
- Records of investments, veterans benefits, and/or untaxed income (if applicable)
- Parents' information (if applicable):

Parents' date of birth Month and year of marriage/divorce

 A Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) to electronically sign your FAFSA. (If you do not already have one, visit www.fsaid.ed.gov to obtain one.)

*Students with Social Security cards issued for work purposes only are not FAFSA eligible (e.g., DACA recipients)

*Parents citizenship does not determined eligibility for students

To complete a FAFSA application, visit: <u>FAFSA.gov</u> For more financial aid information, visit: <u>studentaid.gov</u> For student loan information, visit: studentloans.gov

Questions? Call 602-261-8847



602-261-8847 (TTY use 7-1-1) college.depot@phoenix.gov phxlib.org/collegedepot Admissions ● Financial Aid ● Scholarships

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If student answers NO to all of the following questions, student is considered Dependent.*

Y/N

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Financial Aid Next Steps

- 1. Complete your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov
- 2. If you have not already done so, apply to the colleges you have listed on your FAFSA, ASAP
- 3. After filing your FAFSA the federal processor will mail/email you a Student Aid Report (SAR).
 - •Check your SAR 2-3 days after filing your FAFSA to review for accuracy.
 - •Regular U.S. Postal mail takes longer if signature page is mailed.
- 4. After you have applied, check your school student account for the college you have chosen to attend.
 - Address any "To-Do" or "Hold" items listed on your college student account ASAP (e.g., trasncrips, recidency, vaccination records, etc.).
 - Check your college email for any pending items and follow any instructions immediately.
 - · Register for classes.
 - Review your award letter by selecting the financial aid link on your college student account.
 - Accept/decline your financial aid.
- 5. Colleges typically require FAFSA information to be verified through the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.
 - If this is not an option, be aware of the posibility of being selected for verification of income.
 - Make sure to check you student account and school email regularly.

Remember

- * Complete your FAFSA every year of college.
 - You can complete your FAFSA starting October 1st of each year.
 - The earlier you complete your FAFSA the better.
 - Colleges may have their own FAFSA priority deadlines
- * Check your award letter every school year and either accept or decline your aid.
- * Continue to check your student account throughout the year and address any "To-Do" and "Hold" items if necessary.
- * College Depot provides free assistance to help with all this and more!

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Admissions • Financial Aid • Scholarships

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