

Free Application for Federal Student Aid FAFSA

The federal government uses this form to determine your eligibility for aid, including: grants, work-study, scholarships and loans. FAFSA on the Web is the online version of a paper FAFSA.

Why would I want to complete my FAFSA on the Web instead of on paper?

- *The federal processor can do an “edit check” of your information and alert you of any mistakes.
- *The process is quicker. Receive your SAR in 2-3 weeks (or 3-5 days if you include an e-mail address) vs. 4-5 weeks if you fill out the paper.
- *Eliminate postal service problems or delays.

Step by Step

Step 1: Get the FAFSA

You can get a copy of the FAFSA one of three ways:

1. Get a paper version from the high school counselor or local library
2. Complete FAFSA on the Web: www.fafsa.ed.gov
3. Call 1-800-4-FED-AID to ask for a copy

Step 2: Fill out the FAFSA

Keep a completed copy for your records. For the 2009-2010 school year, use info from 2009. You'll need the following to fill out the form:

- Social security number
- 2009 W2 and/or tax return (1040m 1040A, 1040EZ, etc.)
- Driver's license (if any)
- 2009 federal income tax return
- Parents' 2009 income tax return (if dependent)
- 2009 untaxed income records (if any)
- Current bank statements
- current mortgage and investment records (if any)
- Alien registration card (if not a U.S. citizen)

Step 3: Review your Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR is proof that your FAFSA was received. Review it carefully. If you filed electronically, you should receive you SAR in 2-3 weeks (4-5 weeks if you filed a paper FAFSA).

What if I find error on my SAR?

Report them immediately to the FAFSA Help Desk and ask how you should make corrections. Unresolved error could delay your aid.

What if I don't receive you SAR?

Call 1-800-433-3243 (1-800-4FED-AID) if you do not receive your SAR in 4-5 weeks.