

# FAFSA

What does it stand for?

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Why FAFSA?

This is your annual application to apply for student loans and grants.

Where do I access the application?

Online at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

# FAFSA CONTINUED

- **Student Loan-** Money to help pay for your college education that you will eventually repay.
- **Grants-** Money to help you pay for your college education that you are not expected to repay in most cases.
- **FAFSA** is a part of the college preparation process. The expectation is that you will complete the FAFSA even if you don't qualify for grants.
- Why complete it? FAFSA generates a SAR document (student aid report). You won't have access to it without a completed FAFSA application. Some scholarships require the SAR as part of their application.
- Remember- just because you are offered a loan, doesn't mean you have to accept it.

# STEP ONE

- Apply for your FSA ID at [www.fsaaid.ed.gov/](http://www.fsaaid.ed.gov/)

*In order to do the application:*

The student must have an FSA ID

AND

One parent/guardian must have an FSA ID.

The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website interface. At the top, the logo for 'Federal Student Aid' is displayed, with the tagline 'An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION' and 'PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®'. Below the logo, the heading 'Create a New FSA ID' is visible. The main content area contains several paragraphs of text explaining the FSA ID process and providing important instructions. At the bottom of the screenshot, there are two tabs: 'Create an FSA ID' (which is active) and 'Manage My FSA ID'. Below the tabs, there is a prompt to 'Create your FSA ID username and password below.' and a text input field labeled 'Username'.

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### Create a New FSA ID

An FSA ID is a username and password that gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member.

You are not allowed to have an employee or agent of a commercial entity, or other third party, create an FSA ID for you for any purposes including but not limited to: payment reductions, debt consolidation or applying for aid. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

*Important: When you are done, select the CANCEL button to clear your data even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires.*

Create an FSA ID | Manage My FSA ID

Create your FSA ID username and password below.

Username

## STEP TWO

The FAFSA Application is available online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

Application available: October 1<sup>st</sup>

Priority deadline: December 1<sup>st</sup>

Materials you will need to complete the application:

- FSA ID — to obtain an FSA ID
- W-2s, tribal income, other aid (TANF, child support, other benefits)
- Correct Social Security numbers (Students/Parents)
- Additional asset information (money market funds, stocks, other investments)
- 2019 Federal Tax Returns
- Untaxed income information

**Access the FAFSA application at  
www.fafsa.gov**

The image shows the homepage of the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following links: UNDERSTAND AID, APPLY FOR AID, COMPLETE AID PROCESS, and MANAGE LOANS. The main content area is dark blue with white text. On the left, it says 'Complete the FAFSA Form' and 'Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.' On the right, there are two sections: 'New to the FAFSA Process?' with a 'Start Here' button, and 'Returning User?' with a 'Log In' button. A red arrow points from the right towards the 'Start Here' button, with the text 'New Users!' written in white on a red background. At the bottom, there is a section for 'FAFSA Announcements' with a sub-section for 'Correction Submission Deadline'.

Federal Student Aid  
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UNDERSTAND AID ▾ APPLY FOR AID ▾ COMPLETE AID PROCESS ▾ MANAGE LOANS ▾

# Complete the FAFSA<sup>®</sup> Form

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA<sup>®</sup>) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.

## New to the FAFSA<sup>®</sup> Process?

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

Start Here

New Users!

## Returning User?

Correct info | Add a school

View your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)

Log In

## FAFSA<sup>®</sup> Announcements

### Correction Submission Deadline

Any corrections or updates to your 2019–20 FAFSA form must be submitted by 11:59 p.m.

# NEED ASSISTANCE?

- Text FAFSAHELP to 41411
- Use the Help Center in the top right corner of the FAFSA web page

***Carroll College Financial Aid Office (406) 447-5425***

***Helena College Financial Aid Office (406) 447-6913***

Please note that the financial aid offices at these institutions provide local assistance. You do not need to be planning to attend one of those schools to receive help.

***Stay tuned for more financial aid information to follow soon!***

***Go Bengals!***