

YOU GOT THIS! THE FAFSA PROCESS

Getting up early for class is hard – applying for financial aid doesn't have to be! Follow these steps to make the FAFSA process a breeze.

1. GET YOUR FSA ID

Your FSA ID serves as your electronic signature, and it can take up to three days before you can use it. Better sign up for it now so nothing stops you from submitting that FAFSA as soon as you have it completed.

Also, if you're a dependent student, your parents/guardians will need one too.

TAKE ACTION: Get your FSA ID now at: studentaid.gov/fsa-id.

2. GATHER FAFSA INFORMATION

Save yourself some time by gathering all your required information first.

TAKE ACTION: Gather the following for yourself and your parents/guardians (if you're a dependent student):

- Social Security number
- Driver's license number
- Tax record from two years ago (prior prior year)
 - Or, use the [FAFSA IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#) to import your tax information directly from the IRS
- Untaxed income information, like child support, worker's compensation, etc.
- Asset information: bank statements, businesses, and investments

3. APPLY EARLY!

The FAFSA is available on October 1st. Here's why you should complete it ASAP:

- The better your chances of receiving any aid that is "first-come, first-serve"
- Some scholarships use FAFSA results to award money
- You will have more time to compare financial aid packages from different schools
- If you are required to submit additional documentation, or if you need to appeal your award, you will have more time to complete the process

TAKE ACTION: Start the most current FAFSA anytime after October 1st at studentaid.gov.