

Need Money to Help Pay for College?

Complete the FAFSA!

Filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the first step to finding out if you are eligible for financial aid.

Lots of helpful information can be found here: <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out>

Here's a checklist!

1. Create or Retrieve your FSA ID from studentaid.gov

An FSA ID is a username and password that you must use to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education (ED) online systems.

It's important to understand that the student and the parent may not share an FSA ID: Your FSA ID is your signature, so it has to be unique to you. If you are a parent of a dependent student, you will need your own FSA ID if you want to sign your child's FAFSA form electronically

2. Information and documents required

- \$ Your Social Security number
- \$ Your parents' legal names, dates of birth, social security numbers, current marital status and date of marital status if you are [dependent student](#).*
- \$ Your driver's license number if you have one
- \$ Your Alien Registration Number if you are not a U.S. citizen
- \$ 2020 Federal tax information or tax returns including IRS W-2 information, for you (and your spouse, if you are married), and for your parents if you are required to provide parent information

Use the *IRS Data Retrieval Tool* within the FAFSA.

If you plan to attend college during the FALL 2022, SPRING 2023 and/or SUMMER 2023 semesters, you will need to complete the 2022–23 FAFSA. You will need 2020 tax information and W2s.

- \$ Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, interest income, and veterans non-education benefits, for you, and for your parents if you are providing parent information
- \$ Information on cash; savings and checking account balances; investments, including real estate (but not including the home in which you live); and business and farm assets for you, and for your parents if you are providing parent information

** Not sure whether you will need to put your parents' information on the FAFSA? Review "Determining Your Dependency Status" at www.studentaid.ed.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).*

Keep these records! You may need them again. Do not mail your records to ESCC or the Department of Education.

3. HELP is available!

Have questions or need assistance with completing and submitting the FAFSA, please contact: Carole Read, Financial Aid Coordinator at cread@es.vccs.edu.

Websites to help you navigate financial aid

Studentaid.gov

Federal Student Aid provides information to answer questions such as:

- Create or retrieve FSA ID
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid - **FAFSA**
- How do I prepare for college?
- What types of aid can I get?
- Do I qualify for aid?
- How do I apply for aid?
- How do I repay my loans?

Four of the major legitimate scholarship search sites are:

- Fastweb: www.fastweb.com
- College Board: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
- Scholarships.com: www.scholarships.com
- U.S. Department of Labor: www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch

360financialliteracy.org/Life-Stages/College-Students

360 degrees of Financial Literacy

Provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

- Checkbook Balancer
- Savings Calculator
- Student Budget

Revised June 15, 2022 CLR