



New FAFSA Opens - 12/31/23



VASA - 1/24 TBD

GCM Financial Aid Night ZOOM - 1/10/24 6:30PM

New FAFSA 2024-25

Gardner Humphreys, GCM College & Career Center



1. Updates to FAFSA Form

- **Contributor** is a new term - anyone (student, student's spouse, biological or adoptive parent, or parent's spouse [stepparent]) who is required to provide information and signature. Must also provide consent to have federal tax info transferred from IRS directly.
- The “*parent wizard*” on the FAFSA form will offer filtering questions that determine which parents will need an invitation to be a contributor. The parent wizard will also identify if there's another parent whose information must be included
- Students will be able to include up to **20 colleges** (up from 10)
- The save key has been eliminated on the FAFSA form
- New *demographic questions* about the student's gender, race, and ethnicity are for research only and do not affect aid eligibility

2. Required StudentAid.gov Accounts

- Everyone “contributing” to the FAFSA form online must have their own **StudentAid.gov account**
- Parents and other contributors (not including the student) without a Social Security number (SSN) will be able to create a StudentAid.gov account to fill out and sign their section of the student's FAFSA
- Students who are citizens of the Freely Associated States can create a StudentAid.gov account without an SSN

You Can Create Your Login Now (FSA ID): <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

3. Consent to Transfer Federal Tax Info Online

- All contributors, including the student, must provide **consent/approval** to have federal tax info transferred directly from IRS to FAFSA form
- Required even if the contributor didn't file a tax return
- If the student or another contributor doesn't provide consent and approval, the student will not be eligible for federal student aid—even if they manually enter tax information into the FAFSA form

4. Changes to Aid Formulas

- New formulas **expand Federal Pell Grant eligibility** to more students and link to family size, household income, and the federal poverty level
- **The Student Aid Index (SAI)** replaces the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) in the calculation to determine eligibility for need-based funding. The formula is: $\text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Student Aid Index} - \text{Other Financial Assistance} = \text{Financial Need}$
- Federal Pell Grant *lifetime eligibility* has been restored for students who had an eligible federal student loan discharge.

5. Independent Youth: homeless, foster, etc.

- There is federal student aid available for students who cannot provide parent information due to unusual circumstances
- Students who are homeless, orphans, former foster youth, or who have unusual circumstances will benefit from simplified questions
- Students who indicate unusual circumstances will be granted provisionally independent status and can submit
- **Financial aid administrators** at individual colleges will make the final determination of a student's dependency status based on the documentation that the student submits to the school

Resources

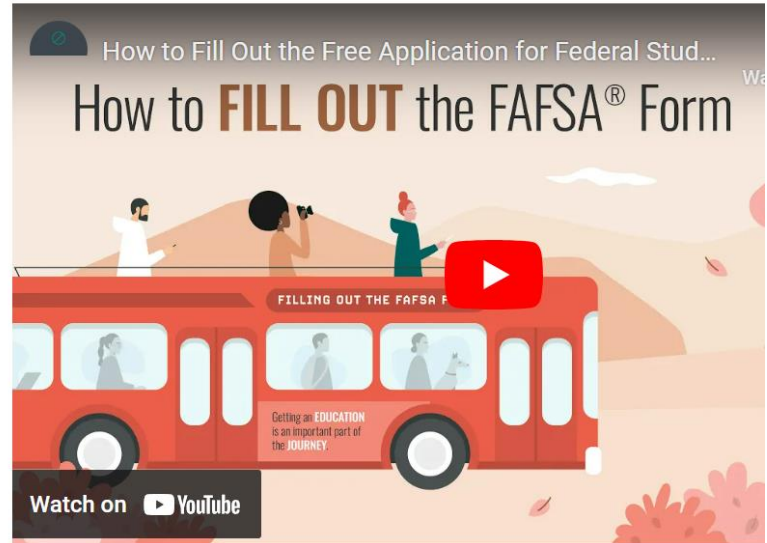
How to Fill Out FAFSA (ALWAYS a “.GOV” - never pay!)

<https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out>

Dept of Education - Federal Student Aid Help Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/@FederalStudentAid/playlists>

How To Fill Out the FAFSA® Form Video



FCPS Non-Profit Partner: College Access Fairfax

<https://collegeaccessfairfax.org/>

Upcoming Events *(view prior recordings on our YouTube channel)*

FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Annandale HS) <i>January 9, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm</i>	FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Mount Vernon HS) <i>January 11, 2024 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm</i>	FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Lake Braddock SS) <i>January 16, 2024 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</i>
FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Hayfield SS) <i>January 25, 2024 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm</i>	FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Falls Church HS) <i>January 30, 2024 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</i>	FAFSA/VASA Completion Event (Lewis HS) <i>February 1, 2024 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm</i>

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