

FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Visit
FAFSA.gov
today!

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the first step in the financial aid process. It is used to apply for federal student aid, such as grants, loans and work-study. In Pennsylvania, information from the FAFSA is used to award other types of aid as well, including the Pennsylvania State Grant.

REMEMBER
THE FAFSA IS FREE.

There's no need to pay anyone
to help fill it out.

There are plenty of free resources available to help you with the financial aid process:

- FAFSA.gov
- PHEAA.org/FAFSA
- studentaid.ed.gov

Checklist

What do I need to complete the FAFSA?

PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

- Social Security Number
- Driver's license number and state of issuance (if any)
- Alien registration number or permanent residence card (if you are not a U.S. citizen)

PROOF OF INCOME

- Taxable income from 2012 W-2 forms or other records of money earned or received
- Untaxed income, including workers' compensation; child support; housing, food and other living allowances; or veterans benefits, etc.

* Use income records from the calendar year that is prior to the year you plan to attend school.

TAX DOCUMENTS

- 2012 Federal Income Tax Return (IRS tax form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) if you were required to file (**NOTE:** If you complete your FAFSA online, you have the option of automatically retrieving your income and tax data from the Internal Revenue Service and having it transferred into your FAFSA. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool is the preferred method to complete the FAFSA.)
- Foreign tax return or a tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia or Palau

* If you have not yet completed your tax return, you can still submit your FAFSA using best estimates. After you submit your tax return, correct any income or tax information that is different from what you initially submitted on your FAFSA.

ASSETS

- Bank statements
- Business and investment information; business and farm records; stocks, bonds, and other investment records (as applicable)

IF YOU ARE A DEPENDENT STUDENT, YOU WILL ALSO NEED:

- The Social Security Number(s) of your parent(s)
- The income and financial records (as listed above) of your parent(s)

These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for informational purposes. Although the information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing, PHEAA does not guarantee its accuracy. You should independently verify that this information is correct.