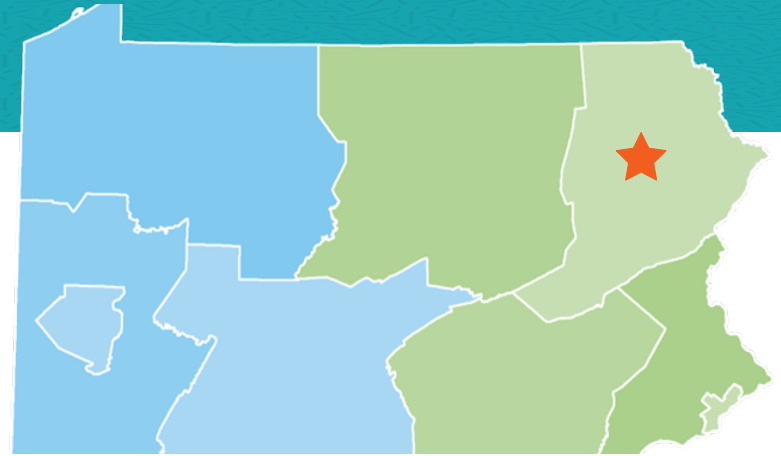


LET'S MAKE  
**CENTS**  
OF PAYING FOR COLLEGE

An illustration of a stack of pennies. The top penny is prominently displayed, showing the profile of Abraham Lincoln facing right. The year '2020' is visible on the right side of the coin. There are three question marks scattered around the coin, suggesting uncertainty or a question about the cost of college. The stack of pennies behind it is rendered with horizontal lines to indicate depth.

**Applying and Paying for College**

# Your Presenter



## Jayeann Harr

Higher Education Access Partner

Southwest Region

PA Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)

412-904-8545

[jharr@pheaa.org](mailto:jharr@pheaa.org)

# Necessary Things to Consider

## Students - *Return On Investment*

- Your Academic Major Choice, Academic Demands
- What will be your Expected Salary?
  - » Versus the Cost of the Education?
- What are the Employment Demands? Now/Future?





## SENDING YOUR KID TO COLLEGE

College Tuition  
4 @ \$23,712.00 = \$94,848.00

Books  
4 @ \$1,300.00 = \$5,200.00

Housing  
4 @ \$3,800.00 = \$15,200.00

Meals  
4 @ \$8,000.00 = \$32,000.00

Transportation  
4 @ \$2,400.00 = \$9,600.00

Total \$156,848.00

Cash

PAY TO THE  
ORDER OF

Bar

Mark  
1324  
Irvi  
71

# The Entire Cost

# Be a Smart Consumer



## DO YOUR RESEARCH

What is the graduation rate?

What is the average debt of graduates?

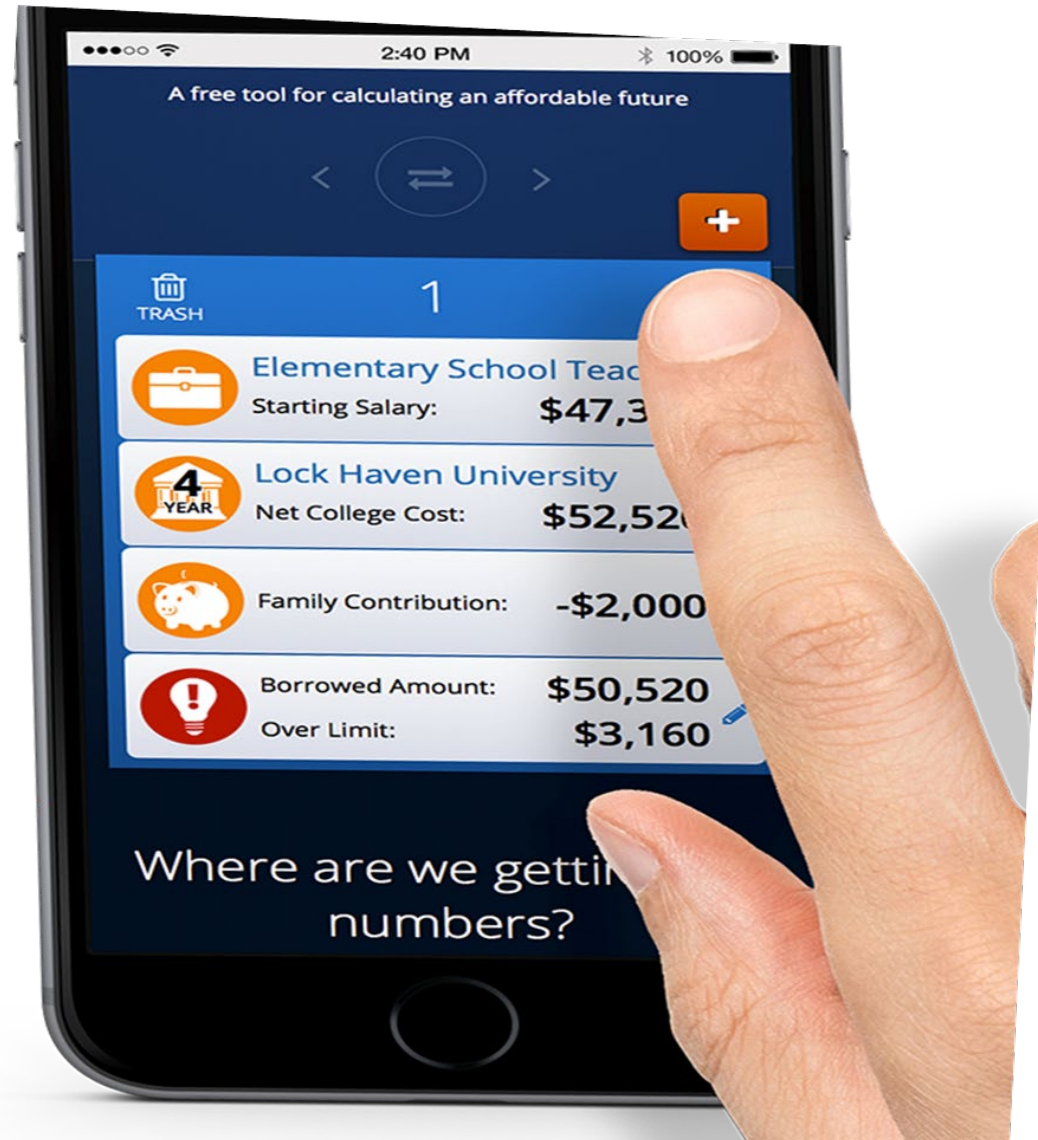
What is the employment outcome?

What is the net price you will pay?

# MySmartBorrowing.org

An interactive, online tool created by PHEAA that helps students and families:

- Select a career and school choice and estimate salaries & college tuition
- View the impact of savings on overall cost
- Calculate loan repayment
- Avoid overborrowing



# What Is Financial Aid?



Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses.

- Types
  - » Grants/Scholarships (free money)
  - » Self-Help (work and loans)
- Awarding
  - » Merit
  - » Need



# Look for Free Money First



**Family  
resources**



**Private  
scholarships  
or grants**



**Educational  
Loans**



**Money from  
colleges**



**Federal or  
State  
financial aid**



# Types of Scholarships



- Postsecondary scholarships
  - » Merit, Major, Characteristics
  - » Admissions & Financial Aid
- Local and regional scholarships
  - » School Counselor
  - » Local Foundations
- National scholarships
  - » Websites

# Scholarship Search Tips

- Start searching early
- Use FREE scholarship search sites
- Don't ignore scholarships with smaller award amounts
- Don't miss deadlines
- Search for scholarships every year
- Check corporate websites such as Target, Walmart, Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Look for unique scholarships



# Recognize Scholarship Scams

- Application Fees
  - » Even if the fee is minimal or “only to encourage serious students to apply”
- “Guaranteed” Scholarships
  - » No individual can honestly “guarantee” you’ll win free money
- Solicitations
  - » “You’ve been selected...”
  - » “You are a finalist...”
  - » Bona fide companies won’t ask for a check or credit card payment upfront
- Official-looking Companies
  - » The logo may look like the U.S. Dept. of Education’s logo
  - » The company may talk about “federal” or “national” awards
- Seminars
  - » Don’t get pressured into paying for services on the spot



# Federal Programs

- Pell Grant
- Campus-based aid (amounts determined by Financial Aid Office at each potential school)
  - » FSEOG
  - » Federal Work-Study...FAO determines
- PA State Grant

For most programs, student must be enrolled at least half-time.

\* **Goes to most financially needy students**



# Other State Programs



- State Work-Study - job related to major
- Blind or Deaf Beneficiary Grant
- Educational Assistance Grant (EAP) – National Guard
- PA Military Family Education Program (MFEP)
- Chafee Education and Training Grant – co-administered with the PA Department of Human Services
- Fostering Independence Through Education Waiver
- Postsecondary Educational Gratuities Program (PEGP)
- Partnerships for Access to Higher Education (PATH)
- Pennsylvania Targeted Industry Program (PA –TIP)
- Ready to Succeed Scholarship (RTSS)
- For details, see the PA Student Aid Guide, or visit [PHEAA.org](https://www.pheaa.org).

# Types of Federal Student Loans

- Undergraduate Students
  - » Subsidized (4.53% interest and 1.059% fee)
  - » Unsubsidized (4.53% interest and 1.059% fee)
- Graduate Students
  - » Unsubsidized (6.08% interest and 1.059% fee)
  - » GradPLUS Loan (7.08% interest and 4.236% fee)
- Parents
  - » PLUS Loan (7.08% and 4.236% fee)

# Subsidized

# Unsubsidized

No interest charged to student while enrolled or in grace

- Based on financial need
- There is a 1.059% fee deducted from loan amount at disbursement

Interest accrues in school and grace

- Any interest not paid during grace will be capitalized at repayment
- There is a 1.059% fee deducted from loan amount at disbursement

**Based on EFC**

# Federal Direct Stafford Loan Borrowing Limits

| Undergraduate Students                |  |  | Graduate Students  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Annual Limits                         | Dependent Students   | Independent or dependent students whose parents are unable to borrow a PLUS Loan | Graduate or Professional Studies   |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Year</b>            | <b>\$5,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$3,500 may be subsidized   | <b>\$9,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$3,500 may be subsidized                   | <b>\$20,500</b> each academic year<br>Graduate / Professional students are no longer eligible for subsidized loans |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>            | <b>\$6,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$4,500 may be subsidized   | <b>\$10,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$4,500 may be subsidized                  |  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year and beyond</b> | <b>\$7,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$5,500 may be subsidized   | <b>\$12,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$5,500 may be subsidized                  |  |
| <b>Aggregate Limits</b>               | <b>\$31,000</b> Total<br>No more than \$23,000 may be subsidized | <b>\$57,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$23,000 may be subsidized                 | <b>\$138,500</b> Total<br>No more than \$65,000 may be subsidized  |



# Federal Direct PLUS Loan

- For parents of dependent undergraduate or graduate level students
- In parent's name for student costs
- Rates set every July 1st for the life of that year's loan; fees are deducted from disbursement
  - » 7.08 % variable/fixed interest rate; 4.236% fees (AY 19/20)
- Can borrow up to the Cost of Attendance
- MUST apply each year
- No Debt-to-Income test, only lenient credit check
- IF denied - student is eligible for an additional \$4,000 unsubsidized loan
- Can have an endorser (co-signer)
- Principal can be deferred while student is in school; Interest will continue to accrue – 10 year repayment
- Must file a FAFSA

# Federal Direct PLUS (Parent)

Loan will be denied if:

1. You have one or more debts with a total combined outstanding balance greater than \$2,085 that are 90 or more days delinquent as of the date of the credit report, or that have been placed in collection or charged off (written off) during the two years preceding the date of the credit report;

**OR....**

# Federal Direct PLUS (Parent)

Loan will be denied if:

2. during the five years preceding the date of the credit report, you have been subject to a:

- default determination
- discharge of debts in bankruptcy
- foreclosure
- repossession
- tax lien
- wage garnishment or
- write-off of a federal student aid debt



**ONLY consider private or alternative loans after looking into all other sources of financial aid.**



# Private/Alternative Loans

- From private lenders or financial institutions
  - » In student's name/co-signers usually required
  - » Can borrow up to the Cost of Attendance
  - » Based on credit scores and debt-to-income
  - » Repayment may be deferred until education completed
  - » Terms vary by lender – compare before making choices
- **READ THE FINE PRINT**

# [PHEAA.org/PAForward](https://PHEAA.org/PAForward)

PHEAA's new PA Forward Student Loan Program is designed specifically for PA students and families.



# PA Forward Loan – Undergraduate

The PHEAA PA Forward loan program was launched on April 30, 2019

These loans are designed specifically for students enrolled or who plan to be enrolled at least half time in a Title IV approved degree, certificate, or diploma granting program.

## Loan Benefits

- Low-cost, fixed interest rates
- Zero Fees
- Borrow up to 100% certified cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, board, books, etc.)
- Low minimum loan amount: \$1,500
- 0.50% interest rate reduction for graduating
- 0.25% interest rate reduction for enrolling in Direct Debit
- No pre-payment penalty
- Multiple repayment plans
- Co-signer release option

# PA Forward Loan - Parent

These loans are designed specifically for parents or guardians of dependent undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time in a Title IV approved degree, certificate, or diploma granting program.

## Loan Benefits

- Low-cost, fixed interest rates
- Zero Fees
- Borrow up to 100% certified cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, board, books, etc.)
- Low minimum loan amount: \$1,500
- 0.25% interest rate reduction for enrolling in *Direct Debit*
- No pre-payment penalty
- Multiple repayment plans
- In-school interest only option



# PA Forward Disclaimer

1. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) Calculations - The lowest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of \$10,000 made in a single disbursement, a borrower who selected an Immediate Repayment Plan, monthly payments of \$107.05 for a period of 120 months, a fixed periodic interest rate of 5.45% and a total amount financed of \$12,845.50. The borrower in this sample qualified for a 0.25% Direct Debit benefit for the entirety of the repayment period.

The highest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of \$10,000 made in a single disbursement, a borrower who selected an Interest Only Repayment Plan and a repayment term of 180 months, monthly payments of \$61.67 for 46 months and monthly payments of \$92.13 for the remainder of the repayment term, a fixed periodic interest rate of 7.40% and a total amount financed of \$19,420.77. The borrower in this sample did not qualify for any interest rate discounts.

Please note these APRs are estimates and may differ from the actual rates received.

2. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) Calculations - The lowest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of \$10,000 made in a single disbursement, a borrower who selected an Immediate Repayment Plan, monthly payments of \$107.05 for a period of 120 months, a fixed periodic interest rate of 5.45% and a total amount financed of \$12,845.50. The borrower in this sample qualified for a 0.25% Direct Debit benefit for the entirety of the repayment period.

The highest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of \$10,000 made in a single disbursement, a borrower who selected an Interest Only Repayment Plan and a repayment term of 180 months, monthly payments of \$61.67 for 46 months and monthly payments of \$92.13 for the remainder of the repayment term, a fixed periodic interest rate of 7.40% and a total amount financed of \$19,420.77. The borrower in this sample did not qualify for any interest rate discounts.

Please note these APRs are estimates and may differ from the actual rates received.

3. Subject to aggregate loan limits.
4. If you choose the Interest Only or Partial Interest Repayment Plans, you will not be initially eligible for Direct Debit or the 0.25% rate reduction until your loan enters repayment and you start paying toward both principal and interest.

Applicants, including co-signers, are subject to credit qualifications, completion of an application and credit agreement, and verification of application information.

PHEAA reserves the right to discontinue all programs or benefits without prior notice.

# **Application Process**

**File the FAFSA**

# The FAFSA is Your Connection to Funding

The FAFSA is a federal form used to determine student eligibility for the following:

- Federal programs, such as Pell Grants, work-study, and student loans
- State programs, such as Pennsylvania State Grant, and other special programs
- School programs, such as need-based grants and scholarships



# Know Your Deadlines



- FAFSA Deadlines
  - » Schools have Priority Deadlines
- PA State Deadlines
  - » May 1, 2020 - If you plan to enroll in a degree program or a college transferable program at a junior college or other college or university (excludes community colleges)
  - » August 1, 2020 - If you plan to enroll in a community college; a business, trade, or technical school; a hospital school of nursing; or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution

# Create Your FSA ID's

- The student applying for aid and one parent providing information on the FAFSA need to create an FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)
- Create prior to completing the FAFSA
- Provides access to FAFSA and Federal Student Aid online systems
- Transfer Tax Information
- Legal Signature for student and parent

**After verifying, the mobile phone number can be used as the username to login**

Username

Password

Email Address

Mobile Phone

Security Questions

Social Security Number



# FSA ID

Create an FSA ID    Manage My FSA ID

Please enter your:

E-mail

Confirm E-mail

✔ Numbers    ✔ Uppercase Letters    ✔ Lowercase Letters    ✔ Special Characters    ✔ 8-30 Characters    Show Text

CONTINUE >

**Encourage students to get it early!**

## HOW TO CREATE A FSA ID

**Before you start**  
Make sure you have access to your personal email account.

**STEP 1** Visit [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov).

**STEP 2** Enter your email, create a username and a password.

**STEP 3** Enter your name, date of birth and Social Security Number.

**STEP 4** Confirm your profile information and enter your optional mailing address. You may also register to receive text messages to your mobile phone to perform account recovery functions (unlock account, reset password and retrieve username).

**STEP 5** Provide four required challenge questions and answers. You may also select to create an optional 8-digit code to access your loan balances over the phone.

**STEP 6** Verify and confirm your personal information as well as acknowledge the FSA ID terms and conditions.

**STEP 7** Verify your email address. Enter the secure code that was sent to the email address submitted in Step 2. This will allow you to use your email address as your username.

**I created my FSA ID, now what?**  
You can now use your FSA ID to sign an original FAFSA. Once the Social Security Administration verifies your information in 1-3 days, you will be able to start a renewal FAFSA, make changes to an existing FAFSA and log in to U.S. Department of Education websites.

**Warning:** Don't give your FSA ID to anyone—not even to someone helping you fill out the FAFSA. Never share your FSA ID!

**STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?**  
Visit [StudentAid.gov/fsaid](https://StudentAid.gov/fsaid).



These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for informational purposes. Although the information is accurate at the time of publication, it is subject to change without notice.

# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

FAFSA.gov

myStudentAid app

PDF at studentaid.gov  
or 1-800-433-3243.

FAFSA available  
**October 1** of  
student's senior  
year of high school

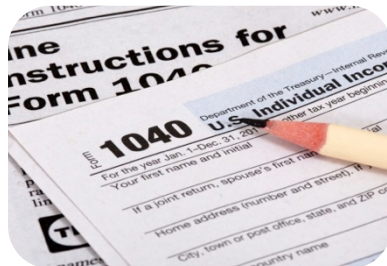


# 2020-2021 FAFSA Prep

## Information Needed for FAFSA



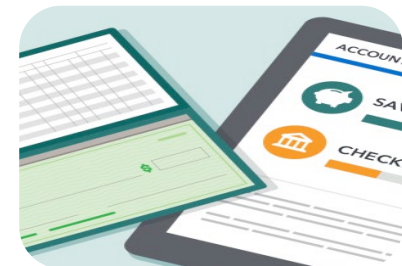
**Social Security  
Numbers**



**Federal Tax Returns and  
W-2's (2018)**



**2018 Untaxed Income**



**Checking and Savings  
Account Statement  
Balances as of FAFSA  
Filing Date**



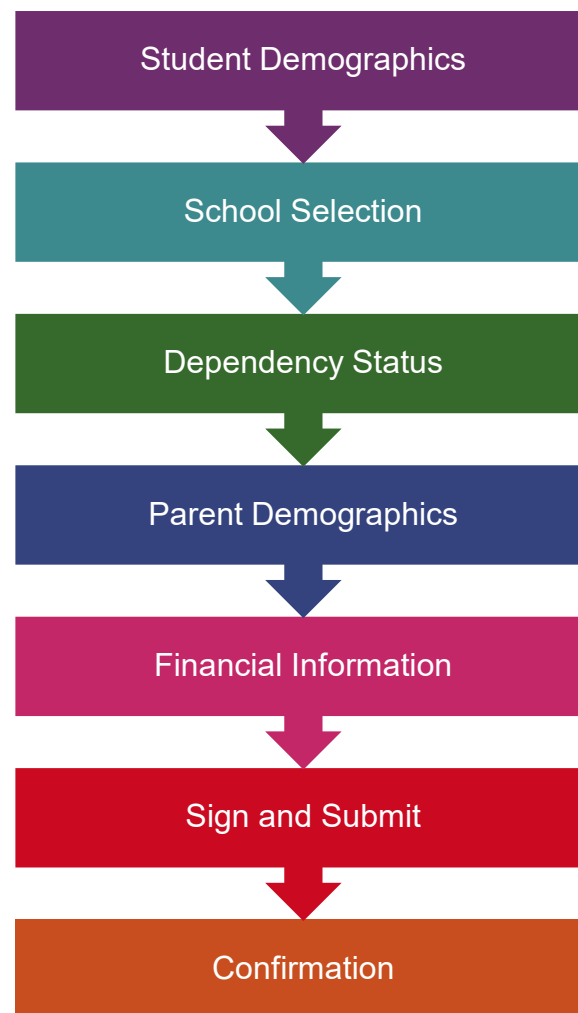
**Investment Records**



**Email Addresses**

# FAFSA Steps

- ✓ Login – student or parent
- ✓ Disclaimer – select accept
- ✓ Application Year
- ✓ Save Key
- ✓ Introduction





8:24 AM 66%

Welcome to  
**myStudentAid**

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

**Need money for college?**  
Submitting the 2019-2020 FAFSA® form is quick, and most importantly, it's FREE.

**START HERE**

**Before You Start**

---

If you want to complete your 2018 - 2019 FAFSA form, visit [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).


**GO TO FAFSA.GOV**

---

Due to scheduled maintenance, myFAFSA will be unavailable every Sunday from 3am to 11am Eastern time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Verizon 10:39 AM 100%

Tell us who you are.

  
I am the Parent

  
I am the Student

  
I am a Preparer

8:24 AM 66%

← BACK

**myStudentAid**

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

FSA ID Username or E-mail

[Forgot username?](#)

FSA ID Password

[Forgot password?](#)

**LOG IN**

[Create an FSA ID account](#)

[Learn more about the FSA ID](#)



← BACK myFAFSA 54% 2:44 PM

Student Information ?

Do you want to be considered for work-study?


Yes

No

Don't know

NEXT

← BACK myFAFSA 54% 2:44 PM



**You're doing great!**

Let's learn more about you.

NEXT

10:35 AM 51%

← BACK myFAFSA

Parent Financials ?

What is your parents' 2017 tax filing status?

Single

Head of Household

Married-Filed Joint Return

Married-Filed Separate Return

Qualifying Widow(er)

NEXT

10:35 AM 51%

← BACK myFAFSA

Parent Financials ?

Did your parents file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return for 2017?

Yes


No

NEXT

10:36 AM 51%

← BACK myFAFSA

Parent Financials



**Accurate parent tax return information from the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) helps to ensure that you receive a more precise financial aid package!**

We saved your FAFSA® form so you can log out now and have your parent log in to use the IRS DRT.

How do you want to proceed?

NEXT

10:36 AM 51%

← BACK myFAFSA

Parent Financials

**precise financial aid package!**

We saved your FAFSA® form so you can log out now and have your parent log in to use the IRS DRT.

How do you want to proceed?

I'll log out and have my parent use the IRS DRT

I'll continue to manually provide my parent's tax information

NEXT

80% 9:42 AM

← BACK myFAFSA ☰

FAFSA Summary

### 2019-2020 FAFSA SUMMARY

**Student ID: XXX-XX-9063 MA**

*Here's a summary of the information you provided on the FAFSA® form. Select NEXT once you're ready to continue with the submission process.*

EXPAND ALL

- Student Information ▶
- School Selection ▶
- Dependency Status ▶

PRINT NEXT

79% 10:11 AM

← BACK myFAFSA ☰

FAFSA Summary

- Student Information ▶
- School Selection ▶
- Dependency Status ▶
- Parent Information ▶
- Parent Financials ▶
- Student Financials ▶

PRINT NEXT

80% 9:42 AM

← BACK myFAFSA ☰

FAFSA Summary

Parent Information ▼

|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Marital Status                       | NEVER MARRIED |
| Marital Status Date                  |               |
| Which Parent's Information Provided? | MOTHER'S      |
| 1st Parent Social Security #         |               |
| 1st Parent First Initial             |               |
| 1st Parent Last Name                 |               |
| 1st Parent Date of Birth             |               |
| E-mail Address                       |               |

PRINT NEXT


79% 10:12 AM

← BACK myFAFSA

Student Signature

Ready to sign your FAFSA® form?

Use the box below to record your signature.




CLEAR SIGNATURE

SUBMIT

78% 11:13 AM

myFAFSA

Student Signature Submitted



Next Step: Parent Signature Needed

- Your signature has been accepted. We saved your FAFSA® form so you can log out now and let your parent sign the form.
- After your parent completes this step, we will process your FAFSA® form

HOME



# File the FAFSA at FAFSA.gov

File the FAFSA every year that the student will be enrolled in a post secondary school.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov website homepage. At the top left is the logo for Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, and the text 'FAFSA.gov'. To the right are language options for 'English' and 'Español', and a search bar for 'Search FAFSA Help'. The main heading is 'Need money for college?' followed by a sub-heading: 'Complete the FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.' Below this are two columns: 'NEW TO FAFSA.GOV?' with a sub-heading 'Submitting the FAFSA form is quick, and most importantly, it's FREE. Get started today.' and a 'START HERE >' button; and 'RETURNING USER?' with a list of actions: 'Make a correction', 'Add a school', and 'View your Student Aid Report (SAR)', and a 'LOG IN >' button. At the bottom, a small notice states: 'Due to scheduled site maintenance, FAFSA on the Web will be unavailable every Sunday from 3 a.m. to 11 a.m. (Eastern Time). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.'

# Social Security Numbers

Social Security Numbers are now Masked – Click Show SSN

I am the student OR  I am a parent, preparer, or student from a Freely Associated State

The student's first name ?

The student's full last name ?

The student's Social Security Number ?

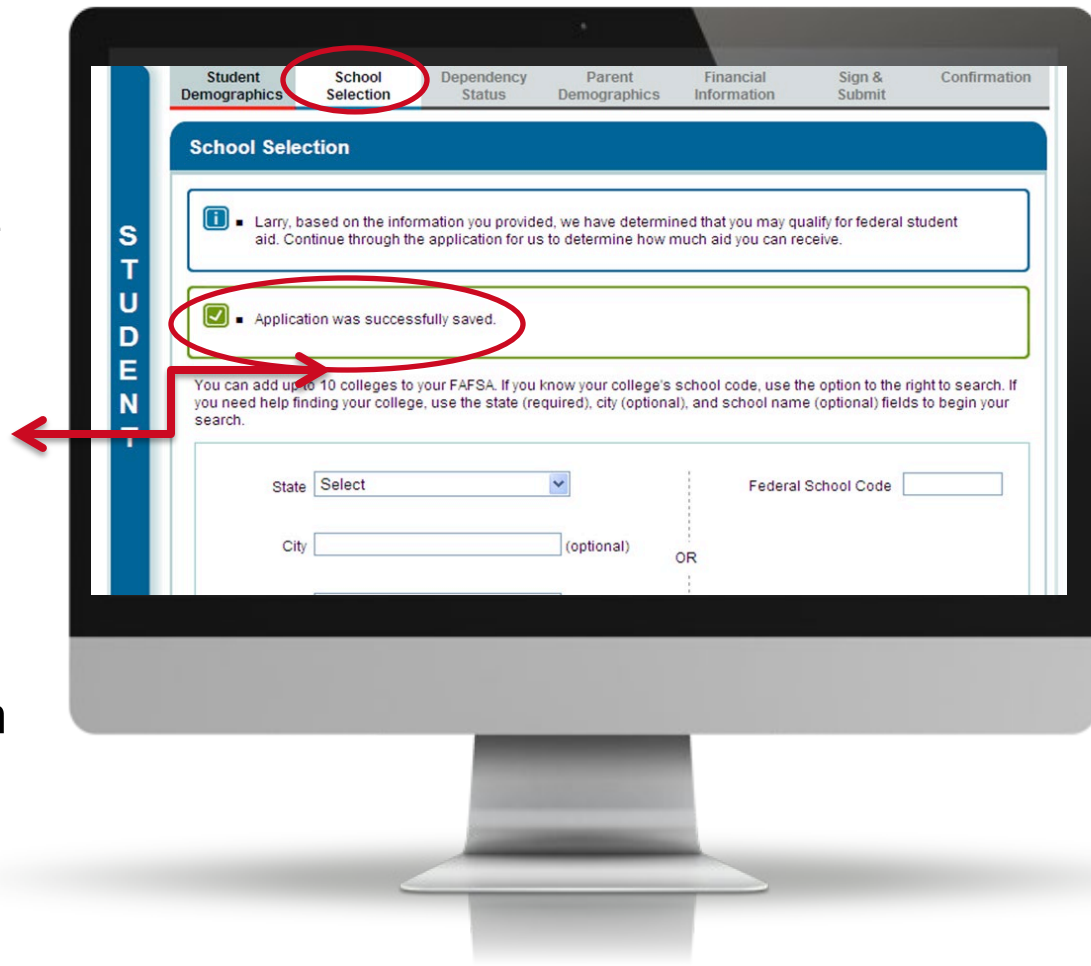
Show SSN

[From a Freely Associated State?](#)



# FAFSA - School Selection

- Look at more than one!
- Schools will only be allowed to see your financial information when you list them on the FAFSA
- **You can add up to 10 colleges at a time**
- Student does not need to be accepted by school
- **NOTE:** Once your final decision is made, update your PA Grant information with the school you **WILL** attend.



# Who Is Independent?



- 24 or older on Jan 1st of 2020
- Married
- Veteran (includes active duty personnel)
- Working on graduate level degree
- Emancipated minor in legal guardianship
- Orphan, in foster care or ward of the court at anytime when student was age 13 or older
- Have legal dependents other than spouse
- Student deemed homeless by proper authority
- (PA State Grant status can be different)

# Whose Info Goes on the FAFSA?

## YES

- Married parents living together
- Biological parents living together
- Adoptive parents
- Divorced or separated parents
  - » The parent the student lived with the most over the past 12 months. If equal, then the parent who provided more than 50% of student's support
- Stepparents – If part of student's household

## NO

- Foster Parents
- Legal Guardians
- Anyone else the student is living with

# IRS Data Retrieval Tool

After taxes are filed:

- Automatically pulls in IRS Tax info for parents and students and places data into the FAFSA
- **REQUIRED!**
- ALSO in Student Section, if student is filing taxes
- If estimated income is used to complete the FAFSA, go back later and use IRS Data Retrieval Tool

See our [Privacy Notice](#) regarding our request for your personal information.

**Enter the following information from your 2015 Federal Income Tax Return.** [?](#) Required fields \*

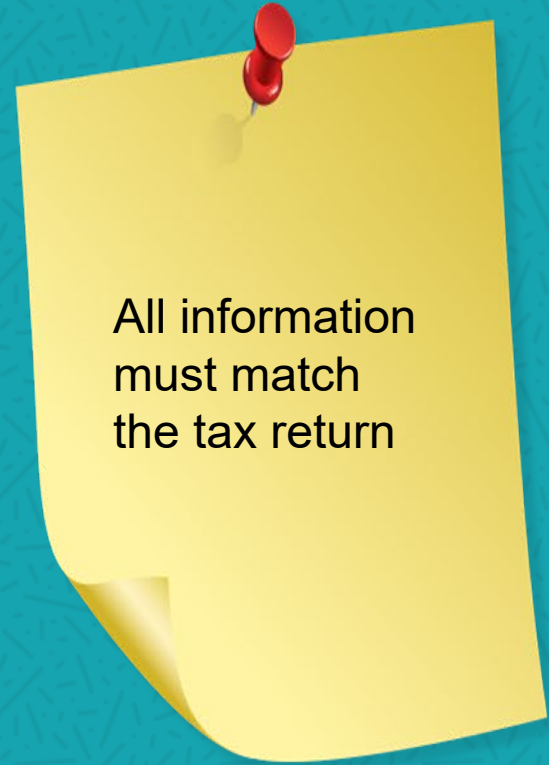
|  |   |
|--|---|
| First Name *   | <input type="text" value="Dependent"/>  |
| Last Name *  | <input type="text" value="Data"/>   |
| Social Security Number *   | <input type="text" value="*** - ** - ****"/>  |
| Date of Birth *  | <input type="text" value="01"/> / <input type="text" value="01"/> / <input type="text" value="1994"/> |
| Filing Status * <a href="#">?</a>  | <input type="text" value="Single"/>   |
| <b>Address - Must match your 2015 Federal Income Tax Return.</b> <a href="#">?</a> |   |
| Street Address *   | <input type="text"/>  |
| P.O. Box (Required if entered on your tax return) <a href="#">?</a>                | <input type="text"/>  |
| Apt. Number (Required if entered on your tax return)                               | <input type="text"/>  |
| Country *  | <input type="text" value="United States"/>  |
| City, Town or Post Office *  | <input type="text"/>  |
| State/U.S. Territory *   | <input type="text" value="Select One"/>   |
| ZIP Code *   | <input type="text"/>  |

Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.

By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.

[Return to FAFSA](#)

[Submit](#)



All information must match the tax return

# Signing with the FSA ID

- **A FAFSA IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL SIGNED!**
- Sign using student and parent FSA ID's

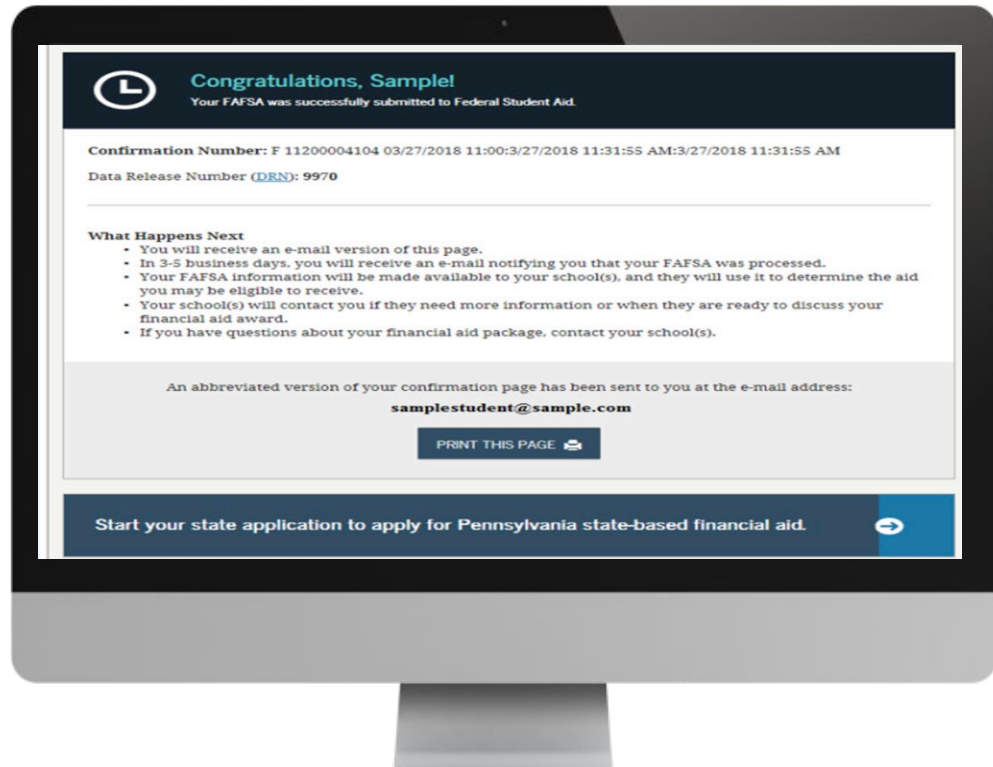
The screenshot displays the 'Signature Status' page. At the top, a progress bar shows the following steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Financial Information, Sign & Submit, and Confirmation. The first five steps are marked with green checkmarks, while 'Sign & Submit' is marked with a pencil icon. Below the progress bar, a blue-bordered box contains an information icon and the text: 'Both you and a parent need to sign your FAFSA. Only sign for yourself. If you and your parent are not together, one of you can sign, save the application and then exit. Give the "save key" to the other person who can log in with it and sign and submit the FAFSA. Be sure not to mix up your and your parent's FSA IDs when signing.' Below this box are two side-by-side panels. The left panel is titled 'Student Signature Needed' and shows 'Signature Status: Unsigned' with a 'PROVIDE STUDENT SIGNATURE' button. The right panel is titled 'Parent Signature Needed' and shows 'Signature Status: Unsigned' with a 'PROVIDE PARENT SIGNATURE' button. A 'PREVIOUS' button is located at the bottom right of the page.



# Pennsylvania State Grant Form



Link directly to the State  
Grant Form from the  
**FAFSA Confirmation  
Page** of your  
FAFSA!



# Other Forms You May Need to Complete



✓ **Check with your school**

College  
Scholarship  
Service  
(CSS)  
Profile



College  
Specific  
Form

# After Filing

Information will be shared with PHEAA and all college choices.

In a few days an email will be sent to the student regarding the processing of their FAFSA and their Student Aid Report.

Students should monitor the email account provided on the FAFSA and respond to requests from Federal Student Aid, PHEAA and the colleges.

# The EFC and how it is Calculated



- The EFC is a number derived from a federal formula
- Remains the same no matter which school the student attends
- Primarily income-driven
- Parental & student income & assets
- Family size and number of family members in college
- Age of older parent

# Special Circumstances

## If things change....

- Reduced income
- Divorced or separated parents
- Recent death or disability



# Compare Schools Financial Aid Offers Carefully

How much of the financial aid is free money?

Which awards are based on need, and which are based on merit?

Are there any conditions on the free money? GPA requirement?

Will awards increase as tuition increases?

Will awards change from year to year?

Are loans included?

What is the bottom line cost?



# Comparing Packages

| <b>Cost</b>                                | <b>\$20,000</b> | <b>\$30,000</b> | <b>\$50,000</b> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>EFC</b>                                 | \$ 3,000        | \$ 3,000        | \$ 3,000        |
| <b>Need</b>                                | \$17,000        | \$27,000        | \$47,000        |
| <b>Free Money</b>                          | \$ 6,000        | \$ 8,000        | \$18,000        |
| <b>Loans</b>                               | \$ 5,500        | \$ 7,000        | \$ 8,000        |
| <b>Work-Study</b>                          | \$ 0            | \$ 2,000        | \$ 3,000        |
| <b>TOTAL AID</b>                           | <b>\$11,500</b> | <b>\$17,000</b> | <b>\$29,000</b> |
|  |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Gap =<br/>(Cost – Aid)</b>              | <b>\$ 8,500</b> | <b>\$13,000</b> | <b>\$21,000</b> |
| <b>Actual Cont. =<br/>(Cost – Free \$)</b> | <b>\$14,000</b> | <b>\$22,000</b> | <b>\$32,000</b> |

# Ways to Save

## Dual Enrollment

**Commute!**



**ROTC**



**Plan ahead to graduate on-time!**



**Ask about a cheaper meal plan.**



**RAs**



**Buy used text books, rent them or go online to find them cheaper!**





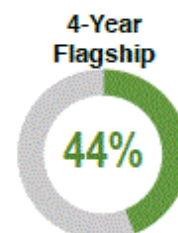
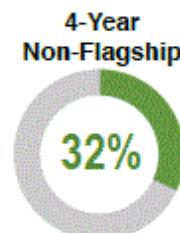
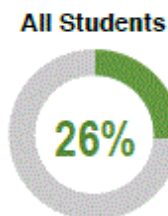
### CCA Data Snapshot

(Data for students who began college going full-time, unless noted otherwise)

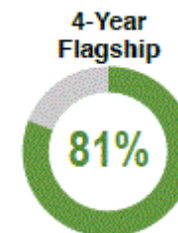
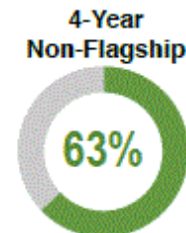
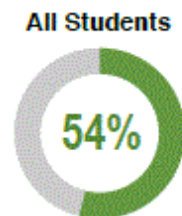
**Most students graduate late. It takes 15 credits per semester (or 30 credits a year) to graduate on time, and data show that “easing in” with 12 credits doesn’t work for most students. Students who take 15 credits every semester get better grades and are more likely to graduate.**

**Too few students start with the momentum needed to graduate on time.**

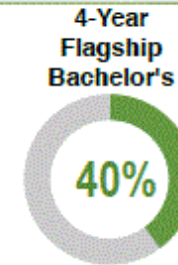
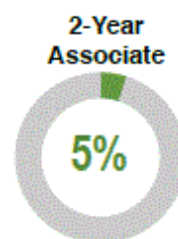
**Students Completing 30 Credits Per Year**  
(On-Time Students)



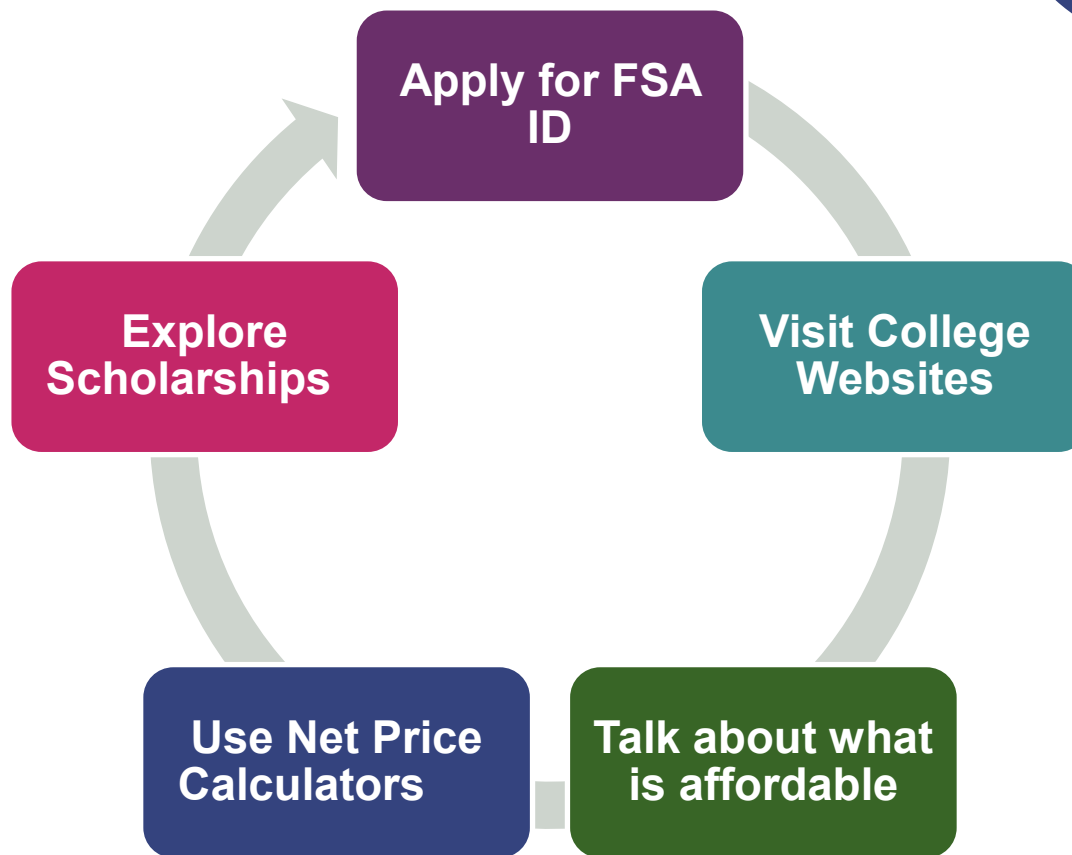
**Students Completing 24 Credits Per Year**  
(Full-Time but Not On-Time Students)



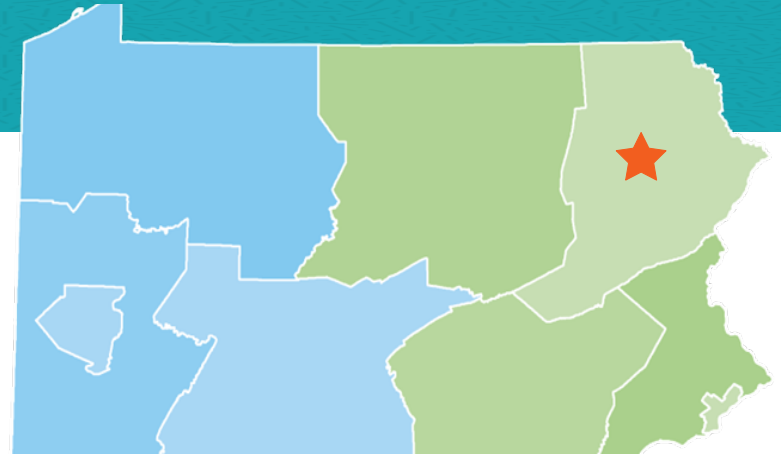
**On-Time Graduation Rate**



# What Can You Do Now?



# Your Presenter



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**QUESTIONS?**