



# Future Flight



**FAFSA**  
Federal Student Aid  
An office of the U.S. Department of Education



## What is FAFSA?

FAFSA is the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**. This application determines federal aid eligibility for you in the form of: grants, student loans, work-study and some scholarships

## FAFSA 101

To apply for financial aid, including federal student grants, work-study, most scholarships and loans, you need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Although the financial aid form may seem complex, there are resources to help you. FAFSA 101 provides an overview of the application, lists the information you will need, and resources and tools to help complete the form.

Go to [FAFSA 101](#) for additional information.

## Who needs to complete the FAFSA

If you are attending any post secondary educational institution, then you should complete the FAFSA. “My parents make too much money” is the most common statement we hear and the reason why families choose not to fill out the FAFSA. But remember this, most colleges/universities/trade schools cannot offer you any type of financial assistance without a completed FAFSA on File. This means you may be losing out on grants, scholarships and other aide that the school can offer you because they do not have your completed FAFSA. Also, if you choose to take out a loan. You would be missing out on the low interest rate loans from the federal government. Remember, this is just an application to see what you qualify for. You do not have to accept any aide if you choose not to. The bottom line is, even families making more than \$100,000 should still fill out the FAFSA. Unless you are planning to pay full sticker price out of pocket for college (and you don't mind), it is almost always a good idea to fill out the FAFSA.

Please read [this article](#) to learn more about the importance of completing the FAFSA.

## What You Will Need to Complete the FAFSA

To complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you will need:

- Your Social Security Number
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- Your federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned. (Note: You may be able to transfer your federal tax return information into your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.)
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- FSA ID to sign electronically.

Please review the full FAFSA Checklist [here](#).



## **Fill up the Centennial FAFSA Piggy Bank**



Check out our FAFSA Piggy Bank located on the wall in the library. We want to encourage all students to complete the FAFSA to get more money for college and to help fill up the Piggy Bank this year.

Mrs. Lisa McMillen  
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# Assistance with FAFSA



## FAFSA Assistance with COLLEGEdepot

FAFSA Assistance is provided to students and their families through specialized programming to assist with the FAFSA application and creating FSA IDs through hands-on small groups and workshop sessions during the peak financial aid season. FSA ID labs are held Monday through Thursday from 3:00-5:00PM in September and FAFSA labs are held every Saturday in October. For more information please go to their [Website](#).



Even if you plan to attend another college/career school, let the experts at the GCC Financial Aid Office help you navigate potential financial aid resources to fund your academic dreams. Attend a virtual scholarship workshop or [schedule a remote meeting](#) with the GCC Financial Aid Outreach team. They can assist you to:

1. Complete your Financial Aid application or FAFSA
  2. Understand and complete your Financial Aid to-do list and verification items
  3. Search and apply for scholarships
- And much more



[Monday, September 14, 2020 at 2:00 PM](#)  
[Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM](#)  
[Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 3:00 PM](#)  
[Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 10:00 AM](#)

[Monday, September 28, 2020 at 2:00 PM](#)  
[Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 10:00 AM](#)  
[Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 3:00 PM](#)  
[Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 10:00 AM](#)



Benji was created to help more students and families in Arizona achieve a college education through completing a FAFSA.

Benji is a chatbot that draws from a large database to answer your questions about FAFSA and financial aid. Benji doesn't talk, only texts.

**Get started by texting "Hi Benji" to 602-786-8171 at any time of day.**

*Benji quickly responds to all questions, 24/7.*

## Term to Learn



### Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)

Students and families are expected to contribute to the cost of college to the extent of what they are able. The FAFSA uses a complex formula to estimate what a student and family can contribute to the overall cost of college. The Estimated Family Contribution or EFC is a number that the government and most schools use when assessing how much aid a student is eligible to receive. Your can view your EFC as soon as your FAFSA is submitted. Even if you are unsure whether or not you will qualify for any government aid, it is a good idea to complete the FAFSA so that you and your school can view your EFC.

How you will feel after completing your FAFSA!



One less thing you have to worry about.