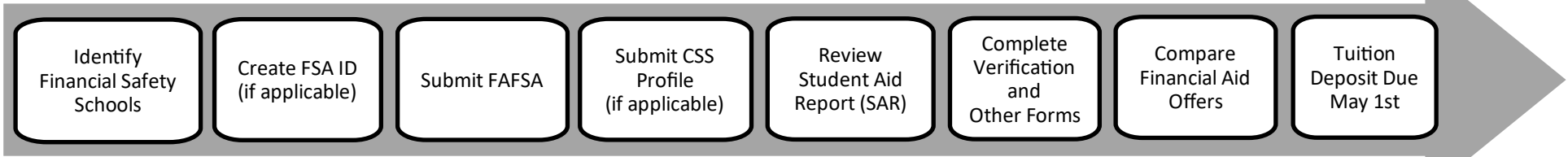


JUNIOR YEAR-SEPTEMBER >> OCTOBER-NOVEMBER >> DECEMBER-FEBRUARY >> MARCH-MAY



GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS = FREE MONEY!

LOANS = BORROWED MONEY

WORK-STUDY = EARNED MONEY

FSA ID:

- ★ Self-selected username and password that both students and parents must create
- ★ Visit studentaid.gov to create a username and password to be able to complete the FAFSA.
- ★ **The FSA ID will need to be created before you can sign and submit your FAFSA**

Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): Required by all colleges, universities, and technical programs. Visit www.fafsa.gov.

- ★ **Apply:** Starting October 1st. Other deadlines may apply. Financial aid process is first come, first served!
- ★ **Cost:** Free!
- ★ **Info Needed:** SS# if applicable, **taxes/earnings from 2020**, investments, checking & savings amount, etc.
- ★ Be sure to have your FSA ID and Password for student and parent in order to complete the FAFSA
- ★ For FAFSA, use IRS Data Retrieval Tool to link taxes if possible!

CSS PROFILE: Required by some private colleges as listed on www.cssprofile.org.

- ★ **Apply:** Starting October 1st. Deadlines vary.
- ★ **Cost:** \$25 for first school; \$16 additional. Fee waivers available for eligible students.
- ★ **Info Needed:** Taxes/earnings from current and prior year, investments, benefits received, checking & savings amount, mortgage/rent info, business info, etc.

Student Aid Report (SAR):

- ★ A summary of information you reported on your FAFSA; includes your family's Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
- ★ Available a few days after submitting FAFSA
- ★ **Review your SAR to ensure successful FAFSA completion!**
- ★ If necessary, add additional colleges or make corrections.

Institutional Forms:

- ★ Some college will require you to fill out their own financial aid forms usually found on the college website or mailed/emailed to student
- ★ Check with your college(s) to make sure your financial aid file is complete or if they need additional information

Verification:

- ★ Colleges may require additional documents to confirm the information reported on your financial aid forms.
- ★ You may be asked to provide a tax return transcript, proof of citizenship, or documentation of legal guardianship (if applicable).
- ★ Request a tax transcript at www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript
- ★ Your financial aid will be pending until you submit all requested documents by each college's deadline.
- ★ **Complete verification ASAP!**

Financial Aid Offer:

- ★ Once you have completed all steps above, the college will provide you a financial aid offer through your student portal or via mail or email.
- ★ The offer will show the amount of financial aid you will receive if you attend that college.
- ★ Review all your financial aid offers with uAspire before submitting your **tuition deposit by May 1st.**

****uAspire Advisors are here to assist you with all of these steps. Go to www.uaspire.org to find out how to set up an appointment****



FAFSA Student Checklist: Information to Collect

To fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), students require certain information from their parent(s). The FAFSA qualifies students for federal, state, and institutional aid. Once you and your parents gather the necessary information, **you will be able to fill out the FAFSA as of October 1st**. Reach out to your uAspire Advisor for more information!

PARENT(S):

- Parent FSA ID (username and password)
- 2020 federal tax return (Form 1040 and any Schedules) and W-2 forms
- Have there been income changes since 2020?** (e.g., lost job, decreased work hours, death in family, divorce/separation, recent marriage)

- Month and year parents were married, remarried, separated, divorced or widowed: ___/____
- Parent 1: Name _____ Date of birth: ___/___/____
Social security number: _____ - _____ - _____
- Parent 2: Name _____ Date of birth: ___/___/____
Social security number: _____ - _____ - _____
- Total current amount in checking and savings account(s): _____

If applicable, please provide the following:

- Amount of any child support received or paid: _____
- Net value of current stocks, bonds, mutual funds, 529 Plan: _____
- Net value of investment/rental property (including portions of the home you live in that are rented out): _____
- Untaxed privately funded disability benefits: _____
- Untaxed workers compensation: _____
- Veteran's non-education benefits: _____

Please check if your family receives any of the following:

- SSI/Medicaid TANF SNAP WIC Free/Reduced Price Lunch

Other Important information:

- ★ You may qualify for FREE assistance for filing your taxes. Visit irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/ to find FREE tax sites that can help you and your family. It is highly recommended to E-file each year!
- ★ Please be sure that names are being reported exactly as they appear on social security cards (if applicable).
- ★ If your custodial parent is remarried, your stepparent's information must be reported on the FAFSA

STUDENT:

- 2020 federal tax return (Form 1040 and any Schedules) and W-2 forms
- Current amount in checking and savings account(s): _____
- Your last name **as it appears** on your social security card: _____
- Social security number* (Be sure it is correct!) _____ - _____ - _____
- Green card/permanent resident number (if applicable)
A# _____
- Amount of any child support received or paid (if applicable): _____
- Untaxed privately funded disability benefits (if applicable): _____
- FSA ID (username and password) for you and have parent (if applicable) bring theirs as well or we cannot finish FAFSA**

Sample W-2

22222	a Employee's social security number	OMB No. 1545-0048	
b Employer identification number (EIN)	1 Wages, tips, other compensation	2 Federal income tax withheld	
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code	3 Social security wages	4 Social security tax withheld	
d Control number	5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare tax withheld	
e Employee's first name and initial	7 Social security tips	8 Allocated tips	
	9 Verification code	10 Dependent care benefits	
	11 Nonqualified plans	12a	
	13a	13b	
	14 Other	15a	
f Employer's address and ZIP code	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State income tax	18 Local wages, tips, etc.
	19 Local income tax	20 Country name	

Sample Tax Return

1040		Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	
2020		OMB No. 1545-0047	
Filing Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married filing jointly <input type="checkbox"/> Married filing separately <input type="checkbox"/> Head of household <input type="checkbox"/> Qualifying widow(er) <input type="checkbox"/> Child only			
At any time during 2020, did you receive, sell, exchange, or otherwise acquire any financial interest in any virtual currency? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Standard Deduction: <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Itemized <input type="checkbox"/> None			
Dependents: <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10			
Total income: \$12,345			
Total adjustments: \$1,234			
Adjusted gross income: \$11,111			
Total tax: \$1,234			
Total refund: \$1,234			