

Steps to renew your FAFSA

for the **2020-2021** school year

Follow these steps to renew your **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**.

STEP 1

Gather required items for the FAFSA.

Independent students – include items below for you and your spouse (if married).

Dependent students – include items below for you and your parent.

- FSA IDs (if you don't have them, go to fsaid.ed.gov)
- Social Security numbers and dates of birth
- Email addresses
- 2018 federal income tax forms and W-2s
- 2018 untaxed income (e.g. child support and workers' compensation)
- Current value of checking/savings accounts and investments (do not include home value and retirement accounts)

To determine your dependency status and to find a complete list of required items for the FAFSA, see "FAFSA Tools" at [EducationQuest.org](https://www.educationquest.org).

STEP 2

Complete the FAFSA at fafsa.gov on or after October 1, but before your college's priority date.

- Click on "Login."
- Complete the login information by entering your FSA ID.
- The form will pre-fill some of your data because you completed the FAFSA last year.
 - Use the IRS Data Retrieval Process to input your income tax information.
 - Follow the directions to finish your FAFSA.

To find a detailed explanation of each question, see the FAFSA Tutorial in "FAFSA Tools" at [EducationQuest.org](https://www.educationquest.org).

STEP 3

Click on "View or print your FAFSA."

- Verify that the information is correct.
- Print a copy for your records.

STEP 4

Sign and submit your FAFSA.

- Agree to the terms, and click on "Sign."
- Click on "Submit."
- Print the confirmation page for your records.

Note: The FAFSA completion process is subject to change based on government regulations.



Omaha
402.391.4033
888.357.6300

Lincoln
402.475.5222
800.303.3745

Kearney
308.234.6310
800.666.3721

Scottsbluff
800.303.3745
ext. 6654

Completing the FAFSA process

for the **2019-2020** school year

1. Tax information:

Student Parent

___ ___ was entered via IRS Data Retrieval

___ ___ was manually entered (refer to the "How to Update Your FAFSA" handout)

___ ___ not entered (non-tax filers)

2. Expect your STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR) via an email link within 3-5 days. It will come from FederalStudentAidFAFSA@cpsemail.ed.gov.

3. Review the SAR.

- If accurate, keep the SAR for your records.
- If changes are needed, make them at fafsa.gov.
- Check the SAR carefully to see if you were selected for verification.

4. Complete the verification process.

If selected for verification, the college will provide a **verification form** via mail, email, or your college-based student account. **You MUST complete the process to get financial aid!** The college may also require:

- IRS Tax Transcript
 - request at www.irs.gov/transcript
- W-2s

Note: Missing the verification deadline could impact the amount of financial aid you receive.

5. Expect a FINANCIAL AID AWARD NOTIFICATION.

The college will send the notification via mail, email, or your college-based student account. This will be a detailed list of the types and amount of aid available to you.

6. Borrow student and parent loans, if needed.

- The college determines the type and amount of loans you can borrow.
- Complete a Master Promissory Note at StudentLoans.gov after you receive your financial aid notification.
- Students (new borrowers) must complete Entrance Loan Counseling before the loan can be disbursed.

7. Track your student loans.

Go to nslds.ed.gov to track the total amount of your federal student loan debt, the interest rates, and lenders.

THE
FINANCIAL AID
PROCESS

