

The logo is a circular emblem with a double-lined border. Inside the circle, the name "L Williams" is written in a cursive script, and "Dynamic Solutions" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font above it. There are small star-like symbols on either side of the name.

Navigating “The Aid”

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Mastering Financial Aid



Snapshot of Costs

The Cost of Attendance (COA) includes both direct & indirect costs.

Shares what to expect.



Navigating Paperwork

Outlines the critical steps, financial documents, do's and don't on.

Mapping the journey.



FAFSA Forms

FAFSA helps you find 'Aid.
Help understand your family contribution

FAFSA is essential for 'Aid.



FinAid Options

Navigating tools for financing your education without free federal aid.

Finding other options



Navigating “The Costs”

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How much is college?

Consider **estimating** expenses early.



Cost of Attendance = Direct Costs + Indirect Costs

Direct - fixed costs billed by college

Indirect - additional costs to attend college



What am I paying for anyway?

Consider **estimating** expenses early.

Direct Costs

- Tuition
- Fees
- Room & Board





What am I paying for anyway?

Consider **estimating** expenses early.



Indirect Costs

- Books & Supplies
- Child care
- Costs related
- Loan fees
- Personal Computer
- Personal expenses
- Off-campus living expenses
- Transportation
- Study abroad costs





Navigating “The Documents”

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WORKSHEET: ORGANIZE YOUR APPLICATION INFORMATION

COLLEGE NAME			APPLICATION DUE	_ / _ / _ _ O C T _ M _ Y _ J _ U _ N _	
COLLEGE INFORMATION			<input type="checkbox"/> Postmark date	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrive by date	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit online date
Address for application:			Application Submitted	_ / _ / _	
			ESSAYS		



APPLICATION INFORMATION

COLLEGE NAME		APPLICATION DATE: / / <input type="checkbox"/> ACT <input type="checkbox"/> SAT <input type="checkbox"/> CTY <input type="checkbox"/> CPT
		<input type="checkbox"/> Postmark date <input type="checkbox"/> Arrive by date <input type="checkbox"/> Submit online date Application Submitted / /
COLLEGE INFORMATION		
Address for application: _____		
City, state, zip: _____		
School website: _____		
Application website: _____		
Admissions office phone: _____ Fax: _____		
CEEB code* (College): _____ (High School): _____		
Federal school code:** _____ FAFSA submitted: / /		
<small>*CEEB codes can be found at www.collegeboard.org. **Federal school codes can be found at https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-app/YSCsearch.</small>		
RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations required? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Requested	Received
Reference 1:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reference 2:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reference 3:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TRANSCRIPTS		
High school transcripts requested? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
College transcripts (if already earned college credits) requested? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
ENTRANCE EXAMS		
Test required <input type="checkbox"/> Test optional <input type="checkbox"/> Test blind <input type="checkbox"/>		
Ordered scores sent from ACT/SAT? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
OTHER REQUIREMENTS		



WORKSHEET: ORGANIZATIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

COLLEGE NAME			
COLLEGE INFORMATION			
Address for application: _____			
City, state, zip: _____			
School website: _____			
Application website: _____			
Admissions office phone: _____		Fax: _____	
CEEB code* (College): _____		(High School): _____	
Federal school code:** _____		FAFSA submitted: ____/____/____	
<small>*CEEB codes can be found at www.collegeboard.org. **Federal school codes can be found at https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-app/TSCsearch.</small>			
RECOMMENDATIONS			
Recommendations required? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Requested	Received	Thank You Sent
Reference 1: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reference 2: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reference 3: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VISIT/VIRTUAL EVENT			
Name of Person You're Meeting	Date/Time	Location	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	
CONTACTS			
Name	Phone	Email	
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	



LET: ORGANIZE YOUR OWN INFORMATION

and complete the information for each college you are seriously considering.

[illegible]



Why focus on FAFSA anyway?

It's **Step 3** in the selection process.



Completed Application Process


You've already done the right things in high school, and have written essays, taken tests, and applied!

Tracking Tests, & Sending Transcripts

You're ensuring you've gotten all materials to prospective schools.

FinAid Options

Ensure you're prepared to complete. FAFSA helps you find 'Aid. Help understand your family's expected contribution



Navigating “The FAFSA”

© L Williams Dynamic Solutions, LLC 2023

So how do I file my FAFSA?



1



Create
an FSA ID

2



Complete
the FAFSA

3



Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)

4



Complete
verification
(if selected)

5



Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges

6



Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college

<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/createaccount/launch>



WORKSHEET: CREATING AN FSA ID

Creating an FSA ID is the first step to completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FSA ID username and password are used to electronically sign the FAFSA and other important financial aid paperwork. It also grants you access to your online Federal Student Aid (FSA) account. Compared to completing a paper FAFSA, completing the FAFSA online and signing it electronically may reduce application errors and is also the quickest way to submit the application. Use this worksheet to help you create an FSA ID.

Each student and at least one parent or legal guardian must have a unique FSA ID in order to electronically sign the FAFSA. For a video on how to create an FSA ID, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjPn-shze8.

INFORMATION NEEDED TO CREATE AN FSA ID	
Student Information	Parent/Legal Guardian Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Social Security card Student email address Student mobile phone number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent/legal guardian Social Security card Parent/legal guardian email address Parent/legal guardian mobile phone number

Help you create an FSA ID.

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STEPS TO CREATING AN FSA ID	
STEP ONE Personal Information	<p>A. Go to the Create an Account (FSA ID) webpage at https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch.</p> <p>B. Click Get Started.</p> <p>C. Enter your name exactly as it appears on your Social Security card, date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) and Social Security number. If your name is too long and you can't fit your full name into the box, type as much of your name as you can.</p>
STEP TWO Account Information	<p>A. Create a username 6-30 characters in length using any combination of numbers and uppercase or lowercase letters.</p> <p>Student username: _____ Parent/legal guardian username: _____</p> <p>B. Enter and confirm your email address. It is recommended to use a non-school-based email address since you will need to access your FSA account after you graduate high school.</p> <p>Student email address: _____ Parent/legal guardian email address: _____</p> <p>C. Create and confirm a password 8-30 characters in length. The password is case sensitive and must include a combination of numbers, uppercase letters and lowercase letters. Do not use personal identifiers (e.g., date of birth, name).</p> <p>Student password: _____ Parent/legal guardian password: _____</p>
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STEP FOUR Communication Preferences	<p>A. Select if you would like to receive U.S. Department of Education communications via email (recommended) or postal mail.</p> <p>B. Select your preferred language (English or Spanish).</p>
STEP FIVE Challenge Questions	<p>A. Select Challenge Question 1: _____ Answer: _____</p> <p>B. Select Challenge Question 2: _____ Answer: _____</p> <p>C. Select Challenge Question 3: _____ Answer: _____</p> <p>D. Select Challenge Question 4: _____ Answer: _____</p>



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STEP SIX Confirm and Verify	<p>A. Review your information for accuracy and make any necessary edits.</p> <p>B. Review FSA's terms and conditions and agree to them by checking the box.</p>
STEP SEVEN Account Recovery	<p>A. Select to verify your mobile phone number and/or email address by retrieving the six-digit secure code sent to you and entering it into the box provided. If you provided both a mobile phone number and an email address, you must verify both.</p>

If you provided an email address, you will receive a confirmation email. You can begin to use your FSA ID immediately, however, some of your activities will be limited until the Social Security Administration (SSA) verifies your information. You can begin to use your FSA ID immediately for activities such as electronically signing your FAFSA, FAFSA on file, and FAFSA renewal. If you provided both a mobile phone number and an email address, you must verify both. If you provided only a mobile phone number, you must verify your mobile phone number. If you provided only an email address, you must verify your email address. If you provided both a mobile phone number and an email address, you must verify both. If you provided only a mobile phone number, you must verify your mobile phone number. If you provided only an email address, you must verify your email address. If you provided both a mobile phone number and an email address, you must verify both.

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So how do I file my FAFSA?



Create
an FSA ID



Complete
the FAFSA



Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)



Complete
verification
(if selected)



Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges



Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college

Where do I input information?

- Online(<https://studentaid.gov/h/applyfor-aid/fafsa>)
- Paper (Call to request, Complete & Mail)
- Phone (TTY line for hearing impaired)

Who's My Parent When I Fill Out My FAFSA Form?

Are your parents married to each other?



Report the information for both parents on the FAFSA form



Do your parents live together?



Report the information for both parents on the FAFSA form even if they were never married, are divorced or are separated



Did you live with one parent more than the other over the past 12 months?



Report the information for the parent you lived with more on the FAFSA form



Report information for the parent who provided more financial support over the past 12 months or in the last year you received support on the FAFSA form



Has this parent remarried?



Also report information for your stepparent on the FAFSA form



You do not need to report additional parent information



Source: <https://studentaid.gov/help/who-is-parent>

What happens since I filed my FAFSA?



1
Create
an FSA ID



2
Complete
the FAFSA



3
Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)



4
Complete
verification
(if selected)



5
Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges



6
Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college

What's the SAR and ISIR?



- SAR - Student Aid Report
 - Contains EFC (Expected Family Contribution)
- ISIR - Institutional Student Information Record
 - Helps schools determine Aid eligibility

What happens since I filed my FAFSA?



1
Create
an FSA ID



2
Complete
the FAFSA



3
Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)



4
Complete
verification
(if selected)



5
Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges



6
Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college

Schools *may* need verification



- Verification helps colleges ensure the accuracy of your FAFSA
 - Tax and other documentation requested
 - Respond in a timely manner
 - Delays may jeopardize Aid

What happens since I filed my FAFSA?



Create
an FSA ID



Complete
the FAFSA



Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)



Complete
verification
(if selected)



Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges



Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college

What's in my Financial Aid package?



- Outlines total FinAid package
 - Grants
 - Scholarships
 - Work-study
 - Loans
- Contact FinAid officers with questions

Sample University Financial Aid Offer Letter

Costs for the 2022-2023 Year

Estimated Cost of Attendance for Full-Time Enrollment	\$25,000/Year
Tuition and fees	\$14,000
Room and board (on-campus resident)	\$6,000
Books and supplies	\$1,000
Transportation	\$600
Miscellaneous	\$1,400

Grants and Scholarships to Pay for College

Total Grants and Scholarships ("Gift Aid"; No Repayment Needed)	\$23,600/Year
Grants from your college	\$8,000

Tuition and fees	\$14,000
Room and board (on-campus resident)	\$6,000
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Miscellaneous	\$1,400

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Total Grants and Scholarships ("Gift Aid"; No Repayment Needed)	\$23,600/Year
Grants from your college	\$8,000
Federal Pell Grant	\$1,500
Grants from your state	\$4,000
Awarded scholarships	\$1,200

What You Will Pay for the 2022-2023 Year

Net price (cost of attendance minus total grants and scholarships)	\$1,400/year
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OPTIONS TO PAY NET PRICE

Work Options	
Work-study (federal, state or institutional)	\$1,000/year

Loan Options*

Direct Subsidized Loan	\$1,500/year
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$2,000/year

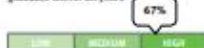
*You may be eligible for a different amount. Contact your financial aid office.

Other Payment Options for Remaining Balance Due

Expected Family Contribution (as calculated by the institution using information reported on the FAFSA or to your institution)	\$4,000/year
Payment plan offered by the institution	

GRADUATION RATE

Percentage of full-time students who graduate within six years



LOAN DEFAULT RATE

Percentage of borrowers entering repayment and defaulting on their loan



LOAN DEFAULT RATE

Percentage of borrowers entering repayment and defaulting on their loan



MEDIAN BORROWING

Students at Sample University typically borrow \$50,000 in federal loans over four years. The federal loan payment over 10 years for this amount is approximately \$96.84 per month. Your borrowing amount may be different.

REPAYING YOUR LOANS

To learn about student loan repayment, go to <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND

NEXT STEPS:

Sample University (SU)
Financial Aid Office
123 Opportunities Street
Anytown, SU 12345

Sample University Financial Aid Offer Letter

Costs for the 2022-2023 Year

Estimated Cost of Attendance for Full-Time Enrollment	\$25,000/Year
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Payment plan offered by the institution	
Direct PLUS Loan	
Military and/or National Service benefits	
Non-federal private education loan	



COST OF ATTENDANCE
The college's published sticker price.
Example: \$25,000



GIFT AID
Free money (scholarships and grants) that does not need to be paid back.
Example: \$23,600

COST OF ATTENDANCE
The college's published sticker price.
Example: \$25,000

ALL AID
Free money (scholarships and grants) that does not need to be paid back plus loans that do need to be paid back.
Example: \$24,200

Financial Aid Offer Letter

Costs for the 2022-2023 Year

Estimated Cost of Attendance for Full-Time Enrollment	\$25,000/Year
Tuition and fees	\$14,000
Room and board (on-campus resident)	\$6,000
Books and supplies	\$1,000
Transportation	\$600
Miscellaneous	\$1,400

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Payment plan offered by the institution	
Direct PLUS Loan	
Military and/or National Service benefits	
Non-federal private education loan	



COST OF ATTENDANCE
The college's published sticker price.
Example: \$25,000



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Free money (scholarships and grants) that does not need to be paid back.
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Free money (scholarships and grants) that does not need to be paid back plus loans that do need to be paid back.
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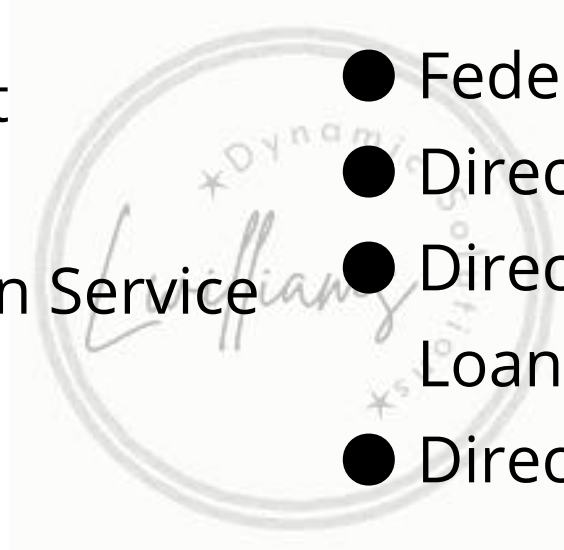
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND

NEXT STEPS:

Sample University (SU)
Financial Aid Office
123 Opportunities Street
Anytown, SU 12345
Phone: 555-555-4545
Email: financialaid@sampleuniv.edu

Other Financial Aid Options

- Federal Pell Grant
- FSEOG
- Iraq & Afghanistan Service Grant
- TEACH Grant
- Federal Work-Study
- Direct Subsidized Loan
- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
- Direct PLUS Loan



What happens since I filed my FAFSA?



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an FSA ID



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Complete
the FAFSA



3
Receive a
SAR (colleges
receive an ISIR)



4
Complete
verification
(if selected)



5
Receive
financial aid
offer letters
from colleges



6
Compare
financial aid
packages and
choose a college



MAKE YOUR DECISION

A quick way to compare offers and determine your net price is to subtract all your grant, scholarship and other free aid from your cost of attendance. Keep in mind that colleges have different ways of offering financial aid, as well as different costs of attendance.¹

		COLLEGE (FULL-ON)					
		Sample college					
EVALUATE	Pros	Top-rated program, low cost of living					
	Cons	May need a car, limited housing options					
	Tuition and fees	\$14,000					
		Sample college					
COST OF ATTENDANCE	Pros	Top-rated program, low cost of living					
	Cons	May need a car, limited housing options					
	Tuition and fees	\$14,000					
	Room and board*	\$8,000					
	Books and supplies	\$1,000					
	Transportation	\$600					
	Miscellaneous	\$1,400					
	Total College Costs (A)	\$25,000					
	Federal Pell Grant	\$3,570					
	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	-					
GRANT/SCHOLARSHIPS/WORK-STUDY	State/other grants	\$1,000					
	Scholarships	\$1,030					
	Institution-based aid	\$8,000					
	Total Grant/Scholarship Aid (B)	\$13,600					
	Your Net Price (Overall Cost) (A - B)	\$11,400					
	Work-Study (Work To Earn)	\$1,000					
		Offered	Accept/Decline \$	Offered	Accept/Decline \$	Offered	Accept/Decline \$
	Direct Subsidized Loan	\$3,500	Accept \$3,500				
	Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$2,000	Accept \$2,000				
	Direct PLUS Loan	\$4,900	Decline -				
LOANS	Private loan	-	-				
	Total Loan Offer (C)	\$5,500					
Total Financial Aid (B + C = D)		\$19,100					
Your Net Cost (Immediate Cost) (A-D) ²		\$5,900					

THE FINAL DECISION



MAKE YOUR DECISION

A quick way to compare offers and determine your net price is to subtract all your grant, scholarship and other free aid from your cost of attendance. Keep in mind that colleges have different ways of offering financial aid, as well as different costs of attendance.¹

		COLLEGE (FULL-ON)					
		Sample college					
EVALUATE	Pros	Top-rated program, low cost of living					
	Cons	May need a car, limited housing options					
	Tuition and fees	\$14,000					
COST OF ATTENDANCE	Room and board*	\$8,000					
	Books and supplies	\$1,000					
	Transportation	\$600					
	Miscellaneous	\$1,400					
	Total College Costs (A)	\$25,000					
	Federal Pell Grant	\$3,570					
	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	-					
	State/other grants	\$1,000					
	Scholarships	\$1,030					
	Institution-based aid	\$8,000					
GRANT/SCHOLARSHIPS/WORK-STUDY	Total Grant/Scholarship Aid (B)	\$13,600					
	Your Net Price (Overall Cost) (A - B)	\$11,400					
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	Direct PLUS Loan	\$4,900	Decline -				
	Private loan	-	-				
	Total Loan Offer (C)	\$5,500					
	Total Financial Aid (B + C = D)	\$19,100					
SUMMARY	Your Net Cost (Immediate Cost) (A-D) ²	\$5,900					

¹ Not all colleges participate in all of the financial aid programs listed above.

² If you are living off campus, estimate your housing and food expenses.

³ Loans, which are part of the net price, or overall costs, will need to be paid back at a later time. Net cost can be paid using

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Answers to some common questions.

- Why do they request info from “year-before-last” ?
- What state do I list as my domicile (residency) ?
- Am I an independent or dependent student?
- What should I do if I have no contact with parents?
- Who is my parent for FinAid purposes?

What are FinAid Advisers Saying?

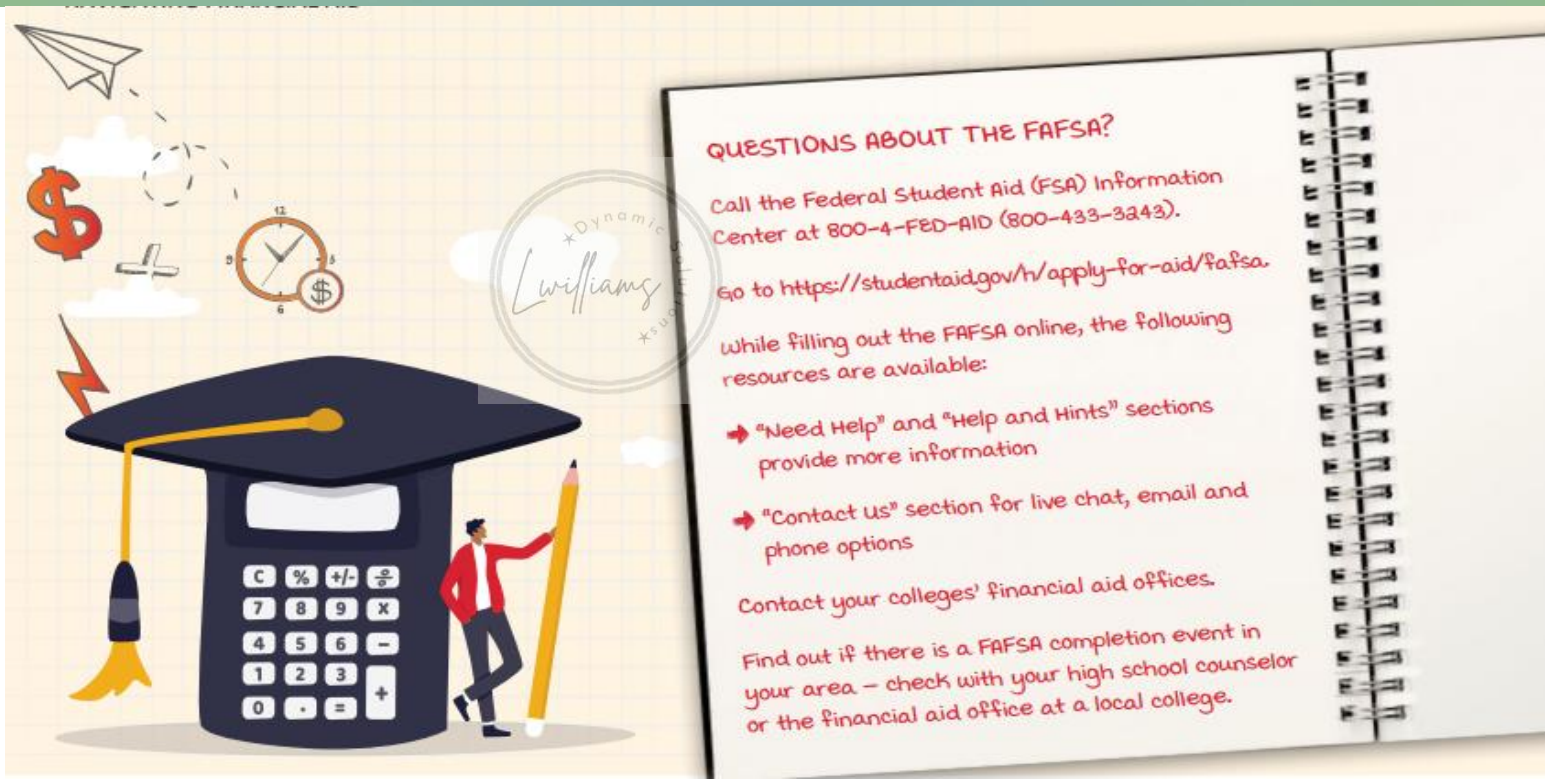


Qualify For More...

**College
Financial Aid**



Still have questions?



QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FAFSA?

Call the Federal Student Aid (FSA) Information Center at 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

Go to <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

While filling out the FAFSA online, the following resources are available:

- ➔ "Need Help" and "Help and Hints" sections provide more information
- ➔ "Contact us" section for live chat, email and phone options

Contact your colleges' financial aid offices.

Find out if there is a FAFSA completion event in your area – check with your high school counselor or the financial aid office at a local college.

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...your time & attention is appreciated!

