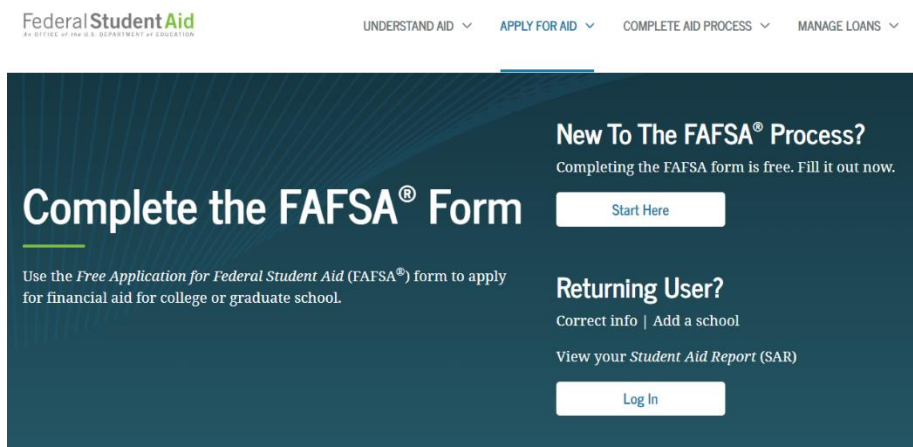


FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION RESOURCES

THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID OR FAFSA is a form the federal government uses to determine the types and amount of financial aid you might qualify for. The FAFSA is the key to unlocking financial aid from the federal government, states, and colleges. This application is used to award grants, scholarships, work study and student loans.



The FAFSA is now mobile!



<https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/afsa-mobile-options>

1. The **Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA)** is available online on Oct. 1 – June 30.
2. Access the FAFSA by going to www.fafsa.gov
3. The **FAFSA4caster** (<https://fafsa.ed.gov/spa/fafsa4c>) will estimate your eligibility for federal student aid and help you understand your options.
4. One parent and the student must create a **FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID)**. The student and parent FSA ID's are required for the FAFSA to be processed. Put your FSA ID's where they can always be located. ID's can be created before October 1.
5. **Complete the 2020-21 FAFSA using 2018 tax information.** Gather the necessary documents (list of colleges where you want to apply, social security #, driver's license #, 2018 tax records, records of untaxed income, and records of all your assets (money)).
6. Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool if it is available. This tool allows students and parents to transfer IRS Tax return data directly into the FAFSA from the IRS web site.
7. Add FAFSA deadlines to your calendar.
8. After submitting your FAFSA, you should receive an e-mail within 3 to 5 days with instructions on how to access your **Student Aid Report (SAR)** online. The SAR summarizes your FAFSA info and indicates your **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** or the amount of money your family can afford to pay for college. Log in with your FSA ID to view the report on fafsa.ed.gov. If your FAFSA is incomplete, your report will note what you need to do to complete it. Do so ASAP!
(C=FAFSA info is mismatch with social security administration *=selected for verification Data Release Number(DRN)=send to schools not listed on FAFSA so they can retrieve FAFSA info)
9. Complete the verification process if you are selected without delay.
10. Review your **Financial Aid Award Package**. After you receive college acceptance letters, you will get a financial aid award letter from each school. Just because you are eligible for a certain type of aid does not mean that you must accept it. Accept all the free money and work-study before any loans. If you must tap into loan dollars, borrow only as much as you truly need.
11. Parents: Once your first child's FAFSA form is complete, you'll get to a confirmation page with a hyperlink that says, "transfer your parents' information into a new FAFSA." Click that link (turn off pop up blocker).

Contact information for Federal Student Aid, An office of the U.S. Department of Education

- Call: 1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
- E-mail: <https://studentaidhelp.ed.gov/app/ask>
- Chat: https://studentaidhelp.ed.gov/app/chat/chat_launch/



SCHOLARSHIP- A scholarship does not have to be paid back and is awarded on a combination of academic achievement, character, extracurricular activities, and other criteria that may be specified by a scholarship.

WORK STUDY – Employment/Work Study opportunities are part-time jobs-usually on the college campus.

GRANT- A grant is money that does not have to be repaid.

LOAN- A loan must be repaid, but repayment is usually required after the student is no longer enrolled.

SCAM ALERT!

DON'T GET SCAMMED - Do not pay for a scholarship search or to have a FAFSA application completed or filed. Here are signs you are being scammed:

- 1) Scholarships guaranteed or your money back.
- 2) You can't get this information anywhere else.
- 3) "May I have your credit card number to hold this scholarship?"
- 4) "We'll do all of the work."
- 5) "This scholarship will cost some money."

FINANCIAL AID WEBSITES

You can find more information on the Student Services Financial Aid page of the website:

<http://leesvillestudentservices.weebly.com/financial-aid.html>

Here are some highlights:

www.cfnc.org/pay/pay.jsp- Access to scholarships and college info. Helps you plan and apply to colleges. You can create your FSA ID here.

www.finaid.org- Gives Expected Family Contribution estimator. Financial aid site with links to free scholarship search programs.

www.studentaid.gov – Information about financial aid from the federal government.

SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

You can find a comprehensive list of sites, as well as our scholarship bulletins on the Student Services Scholarships page of the website: <http://leesvillestudentservices.weebly.com/scholarships.html>

Here are some highlights:

<http://www.scholarshipplus.com/wake/>- WCPSS online scholarship guide. Students & parents can access info about hundreds of scholarships including Wake County high schools.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>- Free on-line scholarship search service. Gives Expected Family Contributor estimator. CSS financial aid profile.

<https://www.fastweb.com/> - Scholarship search

<https://www.scholarships.com/>- Scholarship search

www.brokescholar.com -Scholarship search

www.chegg.com/scholarships - Scholarship search

<https://www.petersons.com/scholarship-search.aspx> - Scholarship search

<https://scholarships360.org/> - Scholarship search

<http://www.uncf.org>- UNCF is the nation's largest private scholarship provider to minority group members.

www.apiasf.org - Scholarships for Asian and Pacific Islander Americans Federal Student Aid Information Center (US Dept. of Education) 800-433-3243.

FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR

Ms. Norwood, Financial Aid Advisor, is available on Thursdays to help parents and students with financial aid questions. Go to Student Services or call (919-870-4250 and press 1) to make an appointment. Ms. Norwood can also be contacted via email at mnorwood@wcpss.net.