

How to Complete the FAFSA4caster

Step 1: Indicate your citizenship and enter student information

You need to be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen to [qualify for federal aid](#).

FAFSA4caster

FAFSA4caster will help you understand your options for paying for college. Provide some basic information and **we'll estimate your eligibility for federal student aid**. Your estimate will be shown in the "College Cost Worksheet" where **you can also provide estimated amounts of other student aid and savings** that can go towards your college education.

Go ahead and get started now! If you need help for a question, read the Help and Hints on the right.

Student Information

Are you a U.S. citizen?

Select

SUBMIT

NEED HELP? **EXIT**

Student Information

Are you a U.S. citizen?

Yes, I am a U.S. citizen (or U.S. national) ▼

What is your date of birth? (mmddyyyy)

What is your marital status?

Select ▼

When you begin college, what will be your grade level?

Select ▼

Have you filed taxes recently?

Yes No

What is your state of legal residence?

Select ▼

SUBMIT



Step 2: Enter basic information about yourself and your parents

Next, you'll enter financial data about yourself and your parents. This includes your parent's marital status, and family size, and number of students in college. You'll also say how much income you and your parents earned last year, as well as the worth of any assets your family might have (the FAFSA4cater will assume you and your parent's asset amount, you may adjust the assumed assets input by the FAFSA4caster – See Below).

Parent Information

As of today, what is the marital status of your [parents](#)?
Never Married

Which [parent's](#) information will be provided?
 Father's Mother's

How old is your mother?
45

How many people are in your mother's household?
3

While you are in college, how many people in your mother's household will be college students? (Include yourself)
1

Has your mother filed taxes recently?
 Yes No

What was your mother's adjusted gross income from the most recent tax return?
\$ 0.00

We use asset information to estimate your eligibility. Based on the information you've entered, we have assumed the following amount for your mother's [asset net worth](#).
\$ 2,347.00

Check the box to change the amount we assumed for assets.

What is your mother's state of legal residence?
Select

Additional Student Information

Have you filed taxes recently?
 Yes No

What is your state of legal residence?
Select

Adjust assumed assets for parent(s) by checking box

Additional Student Information

Have you filed taxes recently?
 Yes No

How much income did you earn during the last year?
\$ 0.00

We use asset information to estimate your eligibility. Based on the information you've entered, we have assumed the following amount for your [asset net worth](#).
\$ 1,834.00

Check the box to change the amount we assumed for assets.

What is your state of legal residence?
Arizona

Adjust assumed assets for student by checking box

Now you're done and we can estimate your federal eligibility.

Keep in mind that the estimated information is a snapshot of the annual federal aid you may qualify for and is based on the information you provided and on certain assumptions we've built into FAFSA4caster. The financial aid you may actually receive may vary.

Click **Submit** to continue.

SUBMIT



Step 3: Calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Once you enter the required information, the FAFSA4caster will immediately predict your financial aid eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Work Study and Direct Stafford Loan. To receive your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), you will need to click on the Blue 'Calculate' Button. **NOTE: Leave all blank fields empty**

Federal Student Aid FAFSA4caster **How It Adds Up**

The "College Cost Worksheet" includes the estimated amount of federal student aid you may receive provided that you meet the [eligibility criteria](#). But federal student aid is only one source of college funding. The "College Cost Worksheet" lets you enter amounts of other student aid and savings that can go towards your college education.

You can also provide the costs of a college you are interested in attending. Click **Calculate** when you're done and we'll tell you if you have enough funds to cover your college costs.

Enter the name of the college you plan to attend. (optional)

How much does the college cost? (Include tuition, room and board, books, and other expenses.) \$

Visit [College Navigator](#) if you don't know how much your college will cost.

Grants and Scholarships

Grants and Scholarships are funds for college expenses that you do not have to repay.

Federal Pell Grant \$

State Grants (fill in an amount) \$

College Grants (fill in an amount) \$

Scholarships (fill in an amount) \$

Work-study

Federal Work-study is part-time employment where you can earn funds while enrolled at the school. Students are paid at least the federal minimum wage and the jobs can be on campus or off campus. Not all colleges participate in the Federal Work-study program and funds may be limited.

Federal Work-study (This amount is the national average for work-study) \$

Student Loans

[Direct Stafford Loans](#) are low-interest loans for undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in college at least half-time. Federal student loans are borrowed funds that must be repaid.

Direct Stafford Loan \$

CALCULATE

Note: FAFSA4caster provides an estimate of federal aid for one academic year. It is based on the information you entered and certain assumptions like full-time attendance.
FAFSA4caster is not the actual application and is offered to help you understand how you can pay for college. If you are attending college soon and want to receive federal student aid you must complete the [FAFSA](#) and you must reapply each year.

PRINT THIS PAGE

NEED HELP? **PREVIOUS** **EXIT**

Click 'Calculate' to
Receive your EFC



Step 4: Print EFC calculation page

When you click the blue 'Calculate' button, your estimated EFC will be shown, please click the white 'Print this Page' button. The printed page is the document that will need to be provided at your Earn to Learn Eligibility Appointment, along with a signed SAR Promissory Note if you have not completed your FAFSA.

Your Estimated EFC	College Cost You Entered	\$ <input type="text"/>
	Total Aid Available This includes the federal student aid we estimated and any of the other aid you entered.	\$ 13,060
	Difference	\$ -13,060

Your estimated [EFC](#) is 0.

Additional resources you should consider:

Parents may apply for a [Parent PLUS Loan](#) to help pay their child's education expenses as long as certain eligibility requirements are met. Your parent may be eligible to apply for the amount displayed in the Difference field.

Direct PLUS Loan for Parents (fill in an amount) \$

Savings is money that you and your parents plan to save for the purpose of contributing to your college expenses.

Savings (fill in an amount) \$

You should also learn about [federal tax benefits for education](#), including the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC).

CALCULATE

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Your Estimated EFC

Print Page

