



Funding Your Education Wisely

Taking A Closer Look at the
Various Types of Aid and the
Financial Aid Process



Discussion Topics

- Financial Aid Overview
 - ✦ Goal of financial aid
 - ✦ Aid options
- FAFSA Terminology
- FAFSA Overview
 - ✦ Key elements of the various sections
 - ✦ Follow up steps & special circumstances
- We'll Help



Financial Aid Overview



Grants

- Free Money that doesn't have to be paid back!
- Federal
 - ✦ Pell Grant (Max: \$5,815)
 - ✦ Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) (\$1K - \$4K)
 - ✦ TEACH Grant (\$4,000)
- Institutional
 - ✦ Based on merit or financial need as determined by each college



Grants



➤ State of Indiana

- ◆ Frank O'Bannon Grant Program
 - Higher Education Award
 - Freedom of Choice Award
- ◆ Evan Bayh 21st Century Scholars Program

**March
10th**

For more information on grants
visit [in.gov/che](http://www.in.gov/che)

State of Indiana Credit Completion

- Students must complete 30 credit hours each year to maintain eligibility for:
 - ✦ Evan Bayh 21st Century Scholar Awards
 - ✦ Frank O'Bannon Awards (maximum eligibility)
- Complete between 24 to 29 credit hours for reduced Frank O'Bannon Award
- Dual Credit & AP Credit goes into a “credit bank”



15toFinishIndiana.org

Scholarships

➤ Local & Community

- ✦ Private Businesses
- ✦ Community Foundation
- ✦ Civic Organizations
- ✦ Church Groups
- ✦ Place of Employment

➤ FREE National Search Sites

FREE Scholarship Search Engines

Fastweb.com

Cappex.com/scholarships

Scholarships.com

Chegg.com/scholarships

Unigo.com/scholarships

Outside scholarships must be reported to the Financial Aid Office so that they may be included in the student's Financial Aid package.

Student Employment

➤ Benefits

- ✦ Earn money to pay for college & minimize student loans
- ✦ Job and interview experience
- ✦ Build time management skills

➤ Internships

- ✦ Opportunity to gain work experience, earn academic credit, and receive financial aid
- ✦ Opportunity to earn money



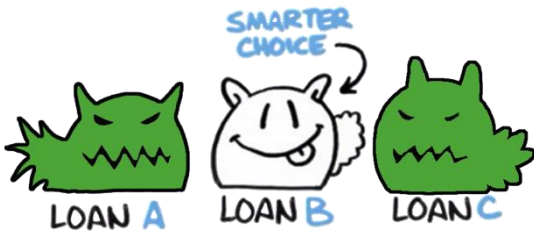
WORK
hard for the money

8%
Students looking
at the option

Education Loans

► Key factors to remember:

- ✦ Loans **MUST** be repaid!
- ✦ Students are limited on how much they can borrow on their own!
- ✦ Repayment can typically be postponed while in college, but interest also starts to grow immediately



Additional loan information available at
[ISMCollegePlanning.org](https://www.ISMCollegePlanning.org)

Education Loans

➤ Federal Direct Loan (3.76% + 1.069% Fee)

- ✦ Student is borrower
- ✦ Subsidized vs. Unsubsidized
- ✦ Amount limited per year
- ✦ Secured by completing:
 - ✦ Entrance Counseling
 - ✦ Master Promissory Note (MPN)



➤ Federal Perkins Loan (5% + No Fee)

- ✦ Student is borrower
- ✦ Eligibility determined by college

Education Loans

- Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) **(6.31% + 4.276% Fee)**
 - ✦ One parent is borrower
 - ✦ Looking for adverse credit history

- Private / Alternative Education Loans
 - ✦ Critical to shop and compare rates **(typically 0 fees)**
 - ✦ Student is borrower with adult credit-worthy co-signer



FAFSA Terminology



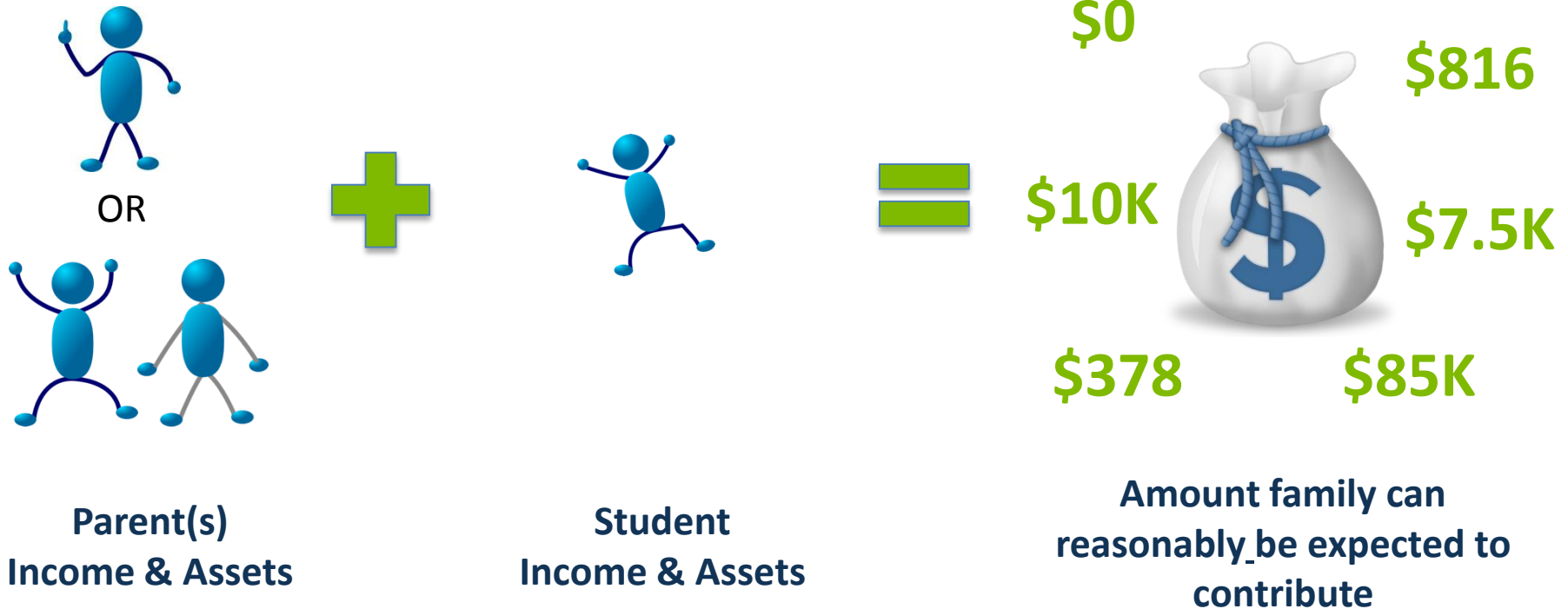
The Importance of the FAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Annual application for most forms of financial aid
- Basis for determining eligibility for:
 - ✦ Federal Funds (Grants, Scholarships, Loans and Work Study)
 - ✦ State of Indiana (Grants and Scholarships)
 - ✦ Potentially Institutional Funds
- Determines EFC

FAFSA[®]
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

What is EFC?

➤ EFC = Expected Family Contribution.



DC versus COA

- **Direct Costs** – What the student pays directly to the institution (Tuition, fees, and possibly room & board)
- **Cost of Attendance** – Includes direct costs above plus federal required estimates for books/supplies, transportation, living expenses, etc.

Direct Costs		Cost of Attendance	
Tuition	10,500	Tuition	10,500
Room & Board	9,700	Room & Board	9,700
Total Direct Costs	20,200	Books & Supplies*	1,200
		Transportation*	1,000
		Living Expenses*	2,000
		Total COA	24,400

* Denotes Estimate

FAFSA Overview



FAFSA Assistance



**ISM College Planning
is here to help!**

Outreach@ISMCollegePlanning.org
or 317-715-9007



FAFSA[®]
Federal Student Aid

FAFSA

➤ Available starting October 1st

➤ Location: Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND® | FAFSA®
Free Application for Federal Student Aid



The screenshot shows the FAFSA website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Home, About Us, FSA ID, StudentAid.gov, and Help. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, a large blue banner reads "Get help paying for college" and "Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)". Below the banner, there are four photographs of diverse college students. At the bottom, there are two main sections: "New to the FAFSA?" with a "Start A New FAFSA" button, and "Returning User?" with a list of options (Make a correction, Add a school, View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...) and a "Login" button.

➤ Build

➤ Skills
que

esary

Application Process

- Submit FAFSA prior to earliest deadline:



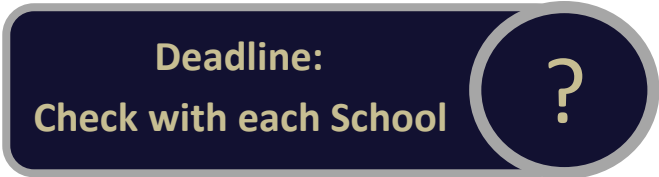
Deadline:
Received
by

March
10

OR



COLLEGE



Deadline:
Check with each School

?

- Some institutions require students to complete additional application requirements, such as:
 - ✦ College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile Form
 - ✦ An institutional financial aid application

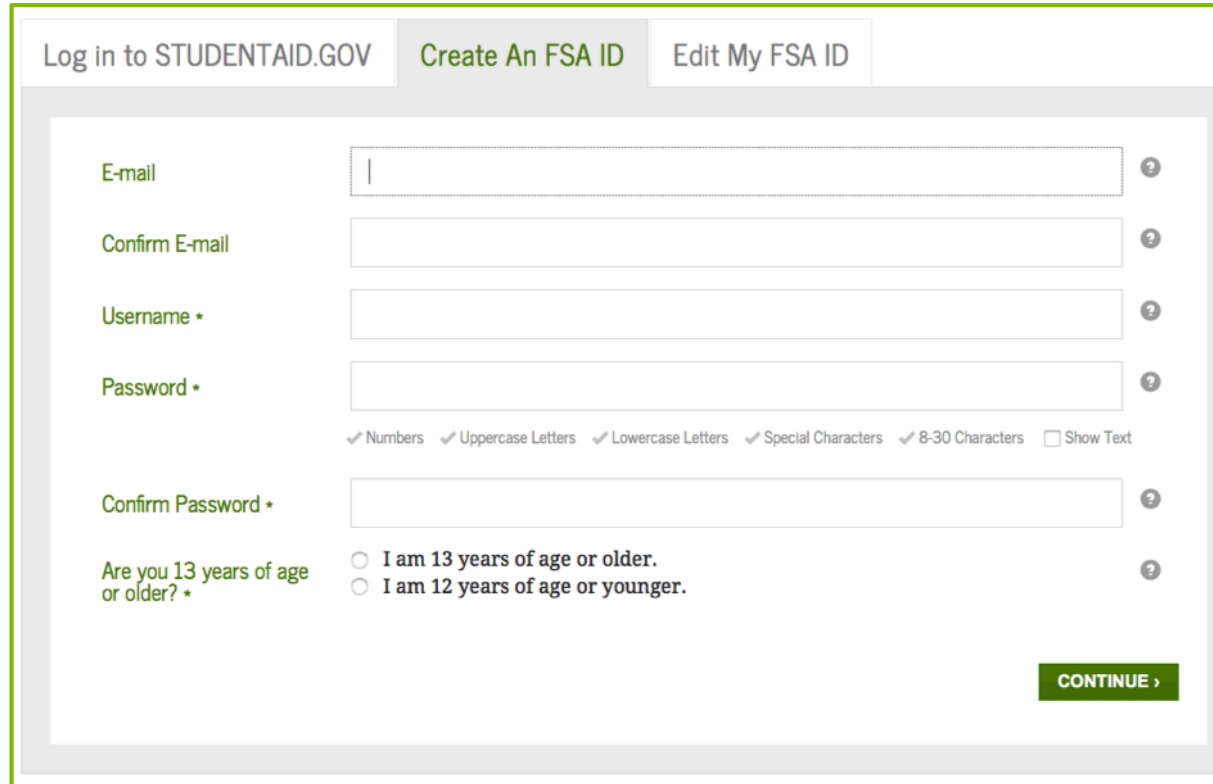
Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

- What is a FSA ID?
 - ✦ Username
 - ✦ Password
- Confirms your identity
- Serves as your electronic signature
- How do you get started?
 - ✦ Go to FAFSA.gov and select the FSA ID icon



FSA ID

- Who needs a FSA ID?
 - ✦ Student
 - ✦ Parent of dependent student
- Unique email required for each person



The screenshot shows the 'Create An FSA ID' page on the STUDENTAID.GOV website. The page has three tabs: 'Log in to STUDENTAID.GOV', 'Create An FSA ID' (which is selected), and 'Edit My FSA ID'. The form includes the following fields and options:

- E-mail:** A text input field with a question mark icon to its right.
- Confirm E-mail:** A text input field with a question mark icon to its right.
- Username *:** A text input field with a question mark icon to its right.
- Password *:** A text input field with a question mark icon to its right. Below the field are five checked checkboxes: 'Numbers', 'Uppercase Letters', 'Lowercase Letters', 'Special Characters', and '8-30 Characters'. There is also an unchecked checkbox labeled 'Show Text'.
- Confirm Password *:** A text input field with a question mark icon to its right.
- Are you 13 years of age or older? *:** Two radio button options: 'I am 13 years of age or older.' and 'I am 12 years of age or younger.', each with a question mark icon to its right.

A green 'CONTINUE >' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Getting Started on the FAFSA

- Login with either:
 - ✦ Student FSA ID
 - ✦ Student Name, SSN & DOB

NOTE: Login is always **STUDENT** information

- Select “Start the 2017-2018 FAFSA”
- Enter Save Key – 4 to 8 character password

Student Demographics

Student
Demographics

School
Selection

Dependency
Status

Parent
Demographics

Financial
Information

Sign &
Submit

Confirmation

- STUDENT
- Main Questions to consider:
 - ✦ Citizenship – must be U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
 - ✦ Selective Service (male only)
 - ✦ Grade level for upcoming college year

Select

Never attended college/1st yr.
Attended college before/1st yr.
2nd yr./sophomore
3rd yr./junior
4th yr./senior
5th yr./other undergraduate
1st yr. graduate/professional
Continuing graduate/professional or beyond

Student Eligibility

➤ Main Questions to consider:

- ✦ Degree you are pursuing for the upcoming college year

Select

1st bachelor's degree

2nd bachelor's degree

Associate degree (occupational or technical program)

Associate degree (general education/transfer program)

Certificate/diploma (occupational/technical/education program of less than 2 yr.)

Certificate/diploma (occupational/technical/education program of at least 2 yr.)

Teaching credential program (nondegree program)

Graduate/professional degree

Other/undecided

- ✦ Will you have your first bachelor's degree before you start the 2017-2018 school year?

School Selection Summary

You may change the positioning of any school in this list. To do so, click on the school name and then use the buttons on the right to change the position of the selected school. The **FIRST** and **LAST** buttons will move the school to either the top or bottom of your list, and the **UP** and **DOWN** buttons will move the school one position up, or one position down.

For federal student aid purposes, it does not matter in what order you list your selected schools. However, the order in which you list schools may affect your eligibility for state aid. Find more information on your state's preferences for listing schools [here](#).

School Name	Federal School Code	Housing Plans	
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY	001786	On Campus	Remove
FRANKLIN COLLEGE OF INDIANA	001798	On Campus	Remove
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF INDIANA	009917	With Parent	Remove

⇩

FIRST

↑

UP

⇩

DOWN

⇩

LAST

Dependent vs. Independent

Student
Demographics

School
Selection

Dependency
Status

Parent
Demographics

Financial
Information

Sign &
Submit

Confirmation

- Dependency questions –
If all answers are “No” then parent info required
- ✦ Born before January 1, 1994
 - ✦ Married
 - ✦ Serving on active duty or veteran of US Armed Forces
 - ✦ Dependents that you support
 - ✦ Court determined you are emancipated minor or under legal guardianship
 - ✦ Since turning 13 – in foster care, orphan/ward of the court or parents are deceased
 - ✦ Designated as homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless
 - ✦ Graduate/Professional program student

Who is the Parent?

Mom makes less money
so maybe she should be
the parent?



I claim them on
taxes so I'm the
parent, right?



Who is the Parent?

- Biological or adoptive parent
- Whose parent information is included on the FAFSA?

Marital Status	Whose information needs provided
Married or unmarried and living together	Both Parents
Divorced, separated or never married	The parent the student lived with more during the past 12 months. If that time is even then provide information for the parent that provided more financial support for the past 12 months.
Remarried after widowed or divorced	Parent and step-parent
Widowed	Single parent

Parent Demographics

Student
Demographics

School
Selection

Dependency
Status

Parent
Demographics

Financial
Information

Sign &
Submit

Confirmation

P
A
R
E
N
T

➤ Key elements:

- ✦ Marital status & date
- ✦ SSN, DOB, Name – federal data matches
- ✦ Number in Household
 - ✧ Student, parent(s), other dependents
- ✦ Number in College
 - ✧ Parents excluded on student's FAFSA

Financial Information

Student
Demographics

School
Selection

Dependency
Status

Parent
Demographics

Financial
Information

Sign &
Submit

Confirmation

- Use 2015 tax return
- Tax completion options:
 - ✦ Already Completed
 - ✦ Use IRS Data Retrieval Tool, if eligible
 - ✦ Best option for families and colleges
 - ✦ Not required to file
 - ✦ Will File – estimate info

[LINK TO IRS](#)

IRS DRT help available at:
ISMCollegePlanning.org

Additional Financial Information

➤ Two Sections

✦ Additional Financial Information

- ✦ Child support paid
- ✦ Grant and scholarship aid reported to IRS

✦ Untaxed Income

- ✦ Payments to tax deferred pensions or retirement accounts
- ✦ Child support received
- ✦ Housing, food, living allowances
- ✦ Money received or paid on your behalf (Student section only)



Asset Information

As of today, does the total amount of your parents' current **assets** exceed \$25,100.00?

Yes No

Does the total amount of your parents' asset net worth exceed the amount listed?

[PREVIOUS](#)

Select **Yes** if your parents' current asset net worth exceeds this amount as of today.

Select **No** if your parents' current asset net worth does not exceed this amount as of today.

Asset net worth means current value of the assets minus what is owed on those assets.

Assets include:

- Money in cash, savings, and checking accounts
- Businesses
- Investment farms
- Other investments, such as real estate (other than the home in which your parents live), UGMA and UTMA accounts for which your parents are the owner, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc.

Assets do not include:

- The home in which your parents live
- UGMA and UTMA accounts for which your parents are the custodian, but not the owner
- The value of life insurance
- Retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non-education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.)

Asset Information

As of today, does the total amount of your parents' current [assets](#) e

Yes No

As of today, what is your parents' total current balance of cash, sav
accounts?

\$.00

As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' investments, incl
your parents' home)?

\$.00

As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' current business
farms?

\$.00

Help and Hints

Parents' Net Worth of Current Investments

Question 91

Enter the net worth of your parents' investments **as of today**.

The net worth of your [parents'](#) current investments is the amount left over after deducting the debt from the value of the investment.

Investments include real estate (do not include the home in which your parents live), trust funds, UGMA and UTMA accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc.

PREVIOUS

NEXT

FAFSA Completed

- Sign & Submit
 - ✦ Student and Parent
- Confirmation Page
 - ✦ Confirmation Number
 - ✦ Transfer parent info if multiple students
 - ✦ Next Steps


2016-2017 Confirmation Page


PRINT THIS PAGE

Confirmation Number: F 01442755906 12/30/2015 11:20:02

Data Release Number (DRN): 9999

Congratulations, Abe! Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid.

 **Does your brother or sister need to complete a FAFSA?** If so, you can [transfer your parents' information into a new FAFSA](#) for your brother or sister to save time. Your parents will have to provide a signature again, but that's all.

 **What Happens Next**

- In 7-10 business days, we will mail you a Student Aid Report (SAR) notifying you that your FAFSA was processed.
- Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or when they are ready to discuss your financial aid award.
- If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact your school(s).

School(s) on your FAFSA:

School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate	Additional Information from College Navigator
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY	59%	81%	NA	NA
FRANKLIN COLLEGE OF INDIANA	61%	79%	NA	NA
IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF INDIANA	8%	45%	17%	NA

Eligibility Information

Eligibility Information

Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 999999

The EFC is a measure of how much you can contribute to the cost of your education. Schools use your EFC to determine your federal student aid eligibility.

The EFC is not how much aid you will receive or how much you have to pay for college.

Your parent(s) indicated that they were going to file their taxes and were providing estimated 2015 tax information. Once your parent(s) have filed their tax return, you must update the information you reported on the FAFSA to reflect the actual information from the 2015 tax return your parents filed. If your parents filed a federal tax return with the IRS, when you access your FAFSA online, your parents may be eligible to use the [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#), which is the best and easiest way to provide accurate tax information. With just a few simple steps, your parents can view information from their IRS tax return and transfer that information directly into your FAFSA.

Based on the [eligibility criteria](#), you may be eligible for the following:

[Pell Grant](#) Estimate - \$4,525.00

[Direct Stafford Loan](#) Estimate - \$5,500.00

You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.

In addition, you should learn about [federal tax benefits for education](#), including the *American Opportunity Tax Credit* (AOTC).

FAFSA Processing Results

- Student Aid Report (SAR)
 - ✦ Print from fafsa.gov
 - ✦ Identifies any issues you need to address
- Make Corrections

Note:

Student & parent must sign the FAFSA when submitting corrections!

My FAFSA

Welcome, Harvey Demolastname!

2016-2017

2015-2016

Current Application Status: Processed Successfully

Congratulations, your FAFSA was successfully processed.

What Happens Next

- Your FAFSA information was made available to the school(s) you listed on your FAFSA.
- Your school(s) will use your FAFSA information to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or to discuss your financial aid award.
- If you have questions about your financial aid package contact your school(s).

You can also:

- [View or Print your Student Aid Report \(SAR\)](#)
- [Make FAFSA Corrections](#) to make a change, add a school, or transfer IRS data into your FAFSA
- [View Correction History](#) to view corrections made to your FAFSA

Special Circumstances

- If a special circumstance occurs make sure you talk with the Financial Aid Office at the college/university you plan to attend.

- Special Circumstances **may** include:
 - ✦ Change in employment or income status
 - ✦ Medical expenses not covered by insurance
 - ✦ Change in parent marital status
 - ✦ Unusual dependent care expenses
 - ✦ Student cannot obtain parent information



We'll Help



College Goal Sunday

- 2 Opportunities for Help!
 - ✦ November 13th 2016
 - ✦ February 12th 2017
- 2:00 PM
- www.collegegoalsunday.org



ISM College Planning.org

Creating Your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

Your FSA ID is a username and password that is unique to each student and parent. It serves as an electronic signature for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the federal student loan processes. Keeping this information secure is very important!

- Go to StudentAid.gov/FAFSAID or choose the FSA ID icon on the FAFSA.gov webpage. Select the "Create an FSA ID Now" button. [Create an FSA ID Now](#)
- Enter the following information:
 - Email** - Must be unique to the individual requesting the ID. *Note: Students we encourage you to use your high school or college email address.*
 - Username** - Anything you will remember and hasn't already been taken. You will see a message that says "Username Available" or "Username Taken" once you meet the minimum field requirements.
 - Password** - Anything you will remember that meets the password criteria and minimum field requirements. *Note: Passwords expire every 18 months.*
- Enter personal identifiable information like the social security number, date of birth, and name. Confirm profile information provided and/or complete the required data elements like address and phone numbers.
- Complete the Challenge Questions and Answers.
 - You will need to pick 2 questions
 - You will then create 2 questions
 - Enter a significant date in your life *Note: Do NOT use your own birthday.*
- Review your information and either verify your email (keep your current or open your email account in advance) or find the email with the subject line and take the 6-digit code in the email.

Click on the "7" at the end of each line for a helpful tip on what is required for each field.

FAFSA Checklist

Go to fafsa.gov to create your FSA ID and start your FAFSA!

Student	Parent/Step-Parent
Documents/Information Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Date of Birth <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Number/Alien Registration Number <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Return & W2s <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Information - Current bank statements - Investment records <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Financial Information - Un-taxed income - Federal work study earnings - Money received or paid on your behalf	Documents/Information Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Date of Birth <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Number/Alien Registration Number <input type="checkbox"/> Month/Year of Parent(s)/Step-Parent Marital Status (Married, Remarried, Separated, Divorced or Widowed) <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Return & W2s <input type="checkbox"/> Asset Information - Current bank statements - Investment records (excluding retirement) - Real Estate/Rental Property (excluding the home you live in) <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Financial Information - Child support paid or received - Combat pay, worker's compensation or disability (excluding SSI) - Veterans non-education benefits
Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) Username or Verified Email: _____ Password: _____ Challenge Question Answers: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ Significant Date (Not Date of Birth): _____	Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) Username or Verified Email: _____ Password: _____ Challenge Question Answers: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ Significant Date (Not Date of Birth): _____

CONTACT ISM COLLEGE PLANNING WITH QUESTIONS!
 10150 E. Harvard Ave., Suite 100, Denver, CO 80231
 PHONE: 317-715-9907
 ISMCollegePlanning.org



IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Instructions

Tax filers can transfer their tax information directly from the IRS to the FAFSA by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT). We strongly encourage you to use this process to save both you and your college/university time in processing your financial aid application.

Basic requirements to be eligible to use the IRS DRT are:

- Completed and filed taxes
- Tax filing status must be married filing jointly, single, head of household, or qualifying widower
- Must answer "No" to the following questions
 - Did you file a form 1040X amended tax return?
 - Did you file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return?
 - Did you file electronically in the last 3 weeks (or by mail in the last 11 weeks)?
- Marital status did not change after end of tax year.

Steps to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- Go to fafsa.gov and complete your initial FAFSA or select [Make FAFSA Correction](#) option after you login.
- The link to the IRS DRT is available on the Financial Information tab for both student and/or parent. Indicate taxes are already completed and your tax filing status, then answer the three questions (see above) and the IRS DRT icon will appear. [Click here](#)
- If requested, enter the FSA ID for the appropriate person (student or parent) then click on the [Link to the IRS](#) box.
- You will get a warning box indicating you are leaving the FAFSA. Click "OK" to continue. You will then see a second warning when IRS website appears. Click "OK" to continue.
- When you are on the IRS web page, you will need to confirm your demographic information and enter your address. Accuracy of this information is vitally important and must match what was on the filed tax return.
- If the data entered matches, the web page will show you the information pulled from your tax return that will be added to your FAFSA.
 - NOTE: You must complete both items below:**
 - Click the box under "Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA AND"
 - Click the "Transfer Now" button to complete this process!
- Once you complete the transfer process you will automatically be redirected to your FAFSA and will see the header "Transferred from the IRS" next to each item that was transferred.

After the FAFSA Checklist

Key steps to help you finalize financial aid and maximize your access to FREE money!

- After Filing the FAFSA**
 - Review Student Aid Report (SAR) on FAFSA website (fafsa.gov) to view comments by the federal processor identifying errors or additional steps you need to take. *NOTE: Any changes to the FAFSA must be signed with the student and/or parent FSA ID and submitted.*
 - Register for eStudent on state of Indiana website (engov.in) and review details associated with your state grant eligibility.
 - Contact each college/university for which you are accepted and still considering, to determine if they need any additional information and respond by each deadline.

DEADLINES!

State of Indiana edits must be cleared by **May 15th**.
 Colleges/Universities may have different deadlines regarding information they need (as applicable).

- Selected for Verification?**
 Verification is a process required by federal regulations. Your college/university financial aid office must confirm certain elements of your FAFSA, which may include but aren't limited to:
- Tax information
 - Number in the household
 - Child support paid
- Check your Student Aid Report (SAR) and student each time you update and resubmit your FAFSA. Also look for any additional information requests from your college/university.

- Compare and Finalize Financial Aid Award Packages**
 - Use ISM College Planning's College Cost Comparison Worksheet to compare award letters.
 - Review borrowing options using ISM College Planning's Student Loan Comparison Sheet.
 - Talk with each college/university's financial aid office regarding the steps required to accept your awards, obtain work study jobs, and secure loans.
 - Understand the impact of your potential loan debt on your financial future by checking out the Student Loan Game Plan.

CONTACT ISM COLLEGE PLANNING WITH QUESTIONS!
 E-MAIL: Outreach@ISMCollegePlanning.org
 PHONE: 317-715-9907



Get Started >

Learn More >

ISM on Social Media

➤ Facebook

✦ www.fb.com/ISMCollegePlanning



➤ Twitter

✦ [@ISM_CollegePlan](https://twitter.com/ISM_CollegePlan)



➤ Others

✦ Instagram – www.Instagram.com/ISMCollegePlanning

✦ Pinterest - www.Pinterest.com/ISMCollegePlan





Connect with us anytime! 

Brent Walker

Outreach@ISMCollegePlanning.org

317-771-6179