

# FAFSA® CHECKLIST

## WHAT DO I NEED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA?

### PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

- Social Security Number
- Driver's license number and state of issuance (optional)
- Alien registration number or permanent residence card (if you are not a U.S. citizen)

### PROOF OF INCOME

- Taxable income from 2015 W-2 forms or other records of money earned or received
  - Untaxed income, including workers' compensation; child support; housing, food and other living allowances; or veterans benefits, etc.
- \* Use income records from the calendar year that is prior to the year you plan to attend school.

### ASSETS

- Bank statements
- Business and investment information; business and farm records; stocks, bonds, and other investment records (as applicable)

### IF YOU ARE A DEPENDENT STUDENT, YOU WILL ALSO NEED:

- The Social Security Number(s) of your parent(s)
- The income and financial records (as listed above) of your parent(s)

### TAX DOCUMENTS

- 2015 Federal Income Tax Return (IRS tax form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) if you were required to file (**NOTE:** If you complete your FAFSA online, you have the option of automatically retrieving your income and tax data from the Internal Revenue Service and having it transferred into your FAFSA. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool is the preferred method to complete the FAFSA.)
- Foreign tax return or a tax return for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia or Palau

\* If you have not yet completed your tax return, you can still submit your FAFSA using best estimates. After you submit your tax return, correct any income or tax information that is different from what you initially submitted on your FAFSA.

### FSA ID

- The FSA ID is a username and password that you will use to log into certain U.S. Department of Education websites, and electronically sign the FAFSA. Students interested in receiving federal student aid should create a FSA ID. You and any parent electronically signing the FAFSA will need their own separate FSA ID.

Get your FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](http://fsaid.ed.gov) before you sit down to complete your FAFSA.

The **FAFSA**® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the first step in the financial aid process. It is used to apply for federal student aid, such as grants, loans and work-study. In Pennsylvania, information from the **FAFSA** is used to award other types of aid as well, including the Pennsylvania State Grant.

There are plenty of free resources available to help you with the financial aid process:

- [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov)
- [PHEAA.org/FAFSA](http://PHEAA.org/FAFSA)
- [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)



Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

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File for **FREE!** [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov)