

Filing the FAFSA

What you need to know

When to apply

If you're starting college in Academic Year 2019-2020, you can submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) **beginning October 1, 2018.**

What you need

A copy of your and/or your family's 2017 tax return.

Why the FAFSA

The FAFSA gives you access to federal loans, as well as any available state and college aid. Even if your family thinks they know what you'll qualify for, it's always a good idea to submit an application to make sure you don't walk away from financial aid.

Things to remember

Financial aid dates are different than college admission dates. States and colleges may also have different financial deadlines than the FAFSA. Be sure to check fafsa.ed.gov for your state's deadlines and your colleges' websites for their deadlines.

College Academic Year
Fall 2019 | Spring 2020

Submit your FAFSA beginning

**October 1, 2018
through June 30, 2019**

Use your income tax info from
2017

College Academic Year
Fall 2020 | Spring 2021

Submit your FAFSA beginning

**October 1, 2019
through June 30, 2020**

Use your income tax info from
2018

Want to know more? Visit SallieMae.com/CollegePlanning