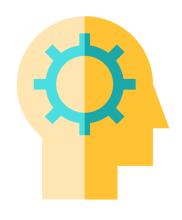


## **OVERVIEW**









APPLICATION PROCESS



AWARDING PROCESS



TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID



OUT OF POCKET COSTS

#### **CRITICAL QUESTIONS**



- How do I apply for financial aid?
- Am I eligible for financial aid?
- Am I eligible to receive scholarships?
- What do I need to know about borrowing loans?
- What will I have to pay out of pocket?

#### **FINANCIAL AID PHILOSOPHY**



- Available to all families regardless of the family income or college cost
- Primary responsibility of the family to pay the educational costs to the extent that they are able







#### **FAFSA GUIDELINES**



- Submit the FAFSA beginning Oct. 1
  - Complete the FAFSA every year
  - Some scholarships require a FAFSA –Highly recommend to complete it
- Check priority deadlines at every school you are considering
  - Dec. 1 and Feb. 1 are common dates
  - Some funding is campus based and limited; important to apply early
- 2023-2024 FAFSA will use 2021 federal tax information
  - Use IRS Data Retrieval Tool: Allows FAFSA to pull income from IRS.gov
    - May not qualify to use if you are married but filed a separate return or if you have a foreign or Puerto Rican tax return

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY



- Student and parent social security numbers
- 2021 federal tax information or tax returns including W-2 information
- Records of untaxed income such as:
  - Child support received
  - Voluntary contributions to retirement accounts
- Information on cash such as savings and checking account balances, investments and business/farm records



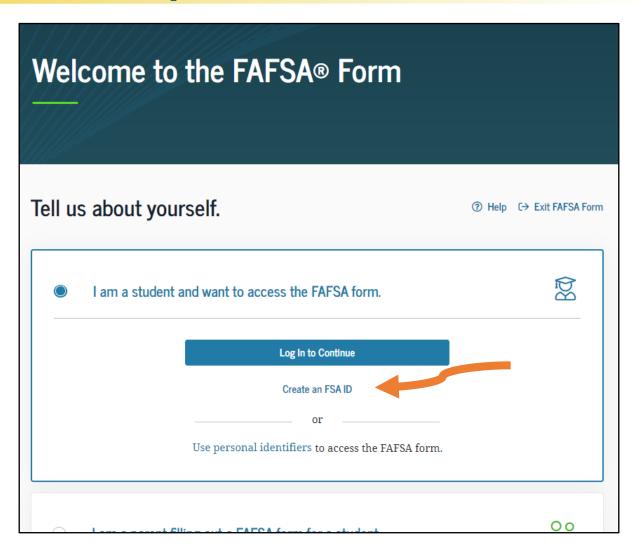




# **CREATE AN ACCOUNT (FSA ID)**



- Apply for a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) for both student and parent of dependent student
- Sign FAFSA electronically with this FSA ID and password
- Parent and student create their OWN FSA ID with their OWN email address



#### 2. LOGIN & COMPLETE THE FAFSA



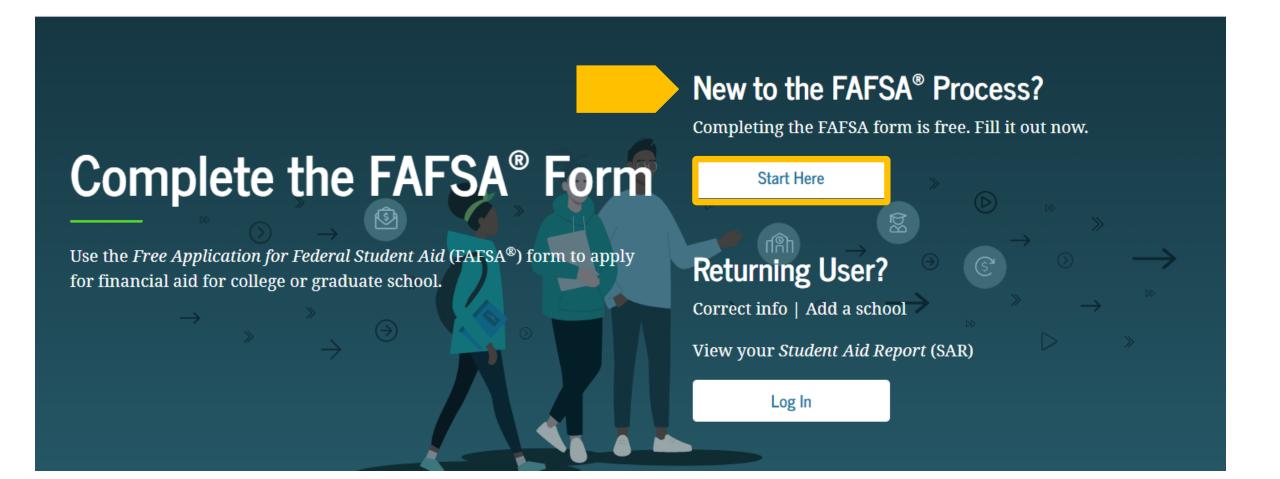


UNDERSTAND AID ~

APPLY FOR AID V

COMPLETE AID PROCESS V

MANAGE LOANS ~



## **FAFSA SECTIONS**



- 1. Student Demographics: Student's name, social security number, date of birth, address, email, gender, telephone number, driver's license number (if the student has a driver's license), marital status, citizenship status, education history and interest in work-study.
- 2. School Selection: Name and location of the high school the student attended and the colleges they're interested in applying to. Add each school the student is interested in attending.
- 3. Dependency Status: Whether the student has children or dependents and the size of their household. Most students will be considered dependent.

#### **FAFSA SECTIONS**

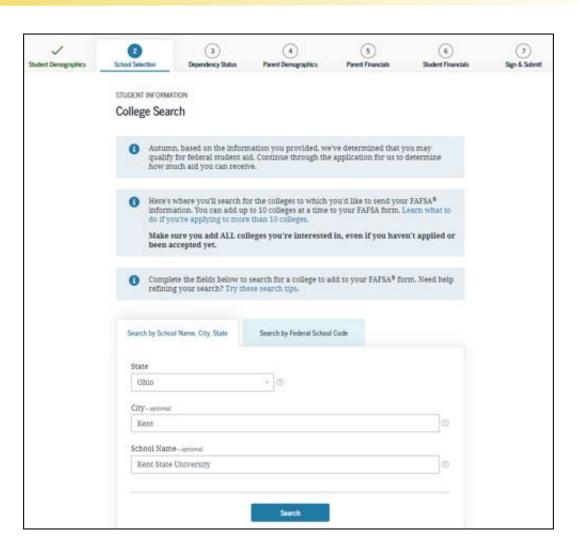


- **4. Parent Demographics**: Parents' marital status, parents' names, social security numbers and birthdays; parents' email addresses and household information, such as who lives with them. (Note: If the student is considered by FAFSA as an independent, they will not need to complete this section). Step-Parent information is required.
- 5. Parent Financials: Parent can either use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (preferred) or input information from their 1040 and W-2s manually.
- 6. Student Financials: Applicants can either use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (preferred) or input information from their 1040 and W-2s manually (if applicable).

#### **School Selection**



- Selected schools will receive FAFSA
- Can add up to 10 schools
- Can search by school state, city and name or school code
- •Select Housing Information-they require this question even for regional campuses or community colleges



#### **FILING THE FAFSA**



# Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Social security numbers
- Dates of birth
- Household size

- Divorced/remarried parental information
- Income earned by parents/stepparents
- U.S. income taxes paid

#### Avoid Errors

- Best practice is to use IRS Data Retrieval tool to input tax information
- Determine parent information that should be used on FAFSA

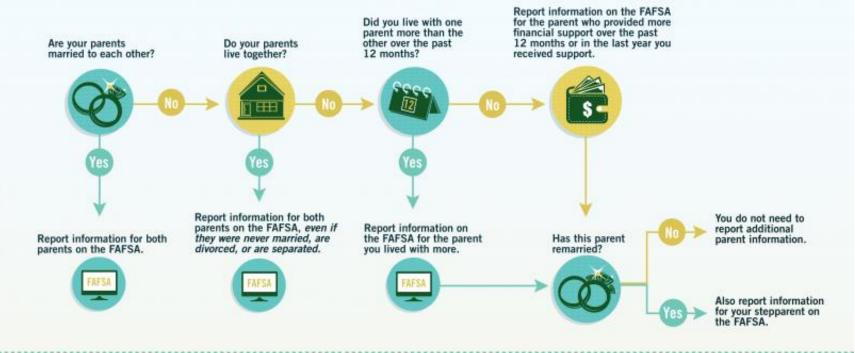
#### **FAFSA PARENT INFORMATION**



# WHO'S MY PARENT WHEN I FILL OUT MY FAFSA?

Dependent students are required to report parent information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).



The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:





Grandparents





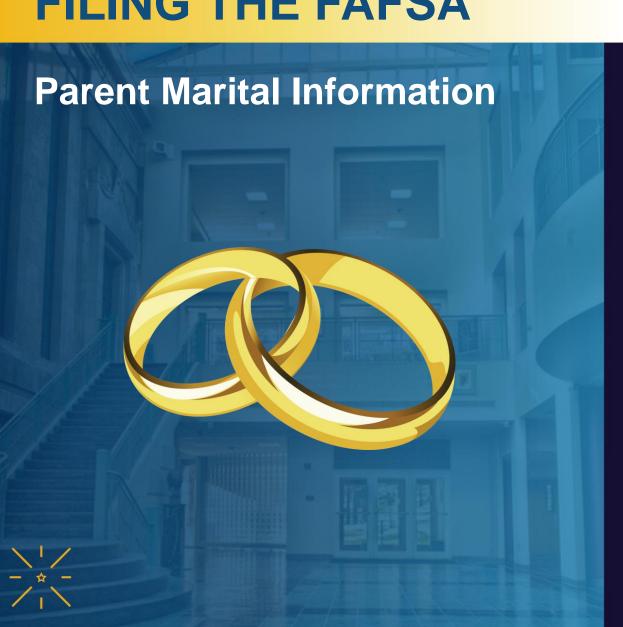


**Aunts or Uncles** 

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit StudentAid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out/parent-info or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to StudentAid.gov/fafsa/filling-out/dependency

# **FILING THE FAFSA**



PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:	PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR:
Never married	The parent that you lived with most during the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, provide information about the parent who provided more financial support during the last 12 months, or during the most recent year that you received support from a parent.
Unmarried and both parents living together	Both of your parents
Married	Both of your parents
Remarried (after being widowed or divorced)	Parent and stepparent
Divorced or separated	The parent that you lived with most during the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, provide information about the parent who provided more financial support during the last 12 months, or during the most recent year that you received support from a parent.
Widowed	Your parent

#### SIMPLE STEPS TO TRANSFER TAX INFORMATION INTO YOUR FAFSA FORM

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) Electronically Transfers Your Federal Tax Return Information Into Your FAFSA" Form

#### WHY

**EASY** Transfer info with the click of a button.

FAST Instantly retrieve your information.

**ACCURATE** Correctly fill in your information.

















Log in to your current FAFSA form or start a new application at fafsa.gov.

Click the "Link to IRS" button and log in with your FSA ID to be transferred to the IRS to retrieve your info.

Check the "Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA form" box, and click the "Transfer Now" button.\*

In the finances section of the online form, you will see a "Link to IRS" button if you are eligible to use the IRS DRT.

Once at the IRS site, enter your information exactly as it appears on your federal income tax return and click the "Submit" button.

You will know that your federal tax return information has been successfully transferred because the words "Transferred from the IRS" will display in place of the IRS information in your FAFSA form.

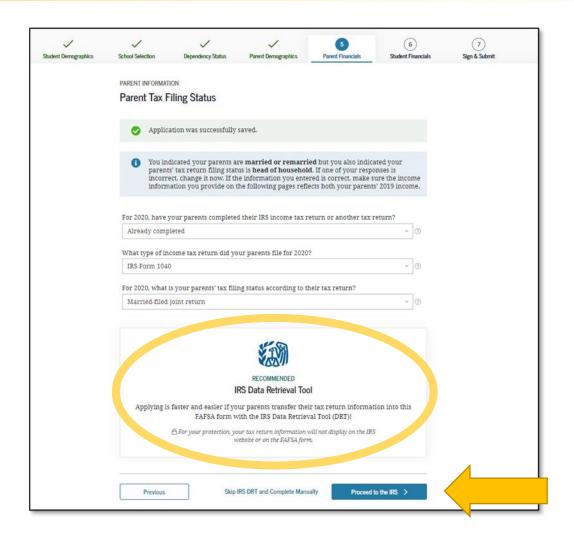
# SUBMIT YOUR FAFSA FORM

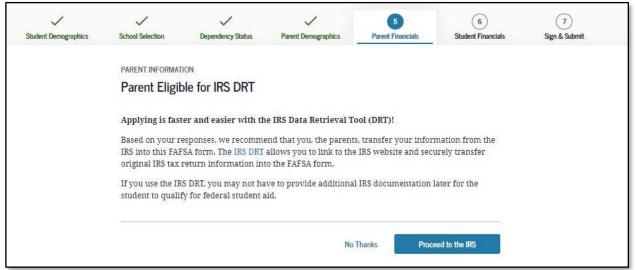
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid )

\*For your protection, your tax information will not be displayed on either the IRS site or fafsa.gov.

#### FILING THE FAFSA: IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL





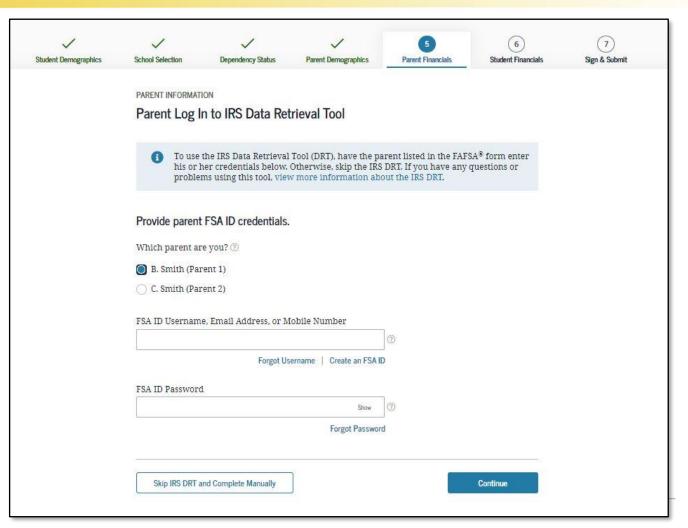




#### **FILING THE FAFSA**



- IRS Data Retrieval Tool
- 2021 tax data will be used
- Must type in the address used to file that year
- Student can use this tool too if applicable



# FILING THE FAFSA: IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL



IRS.gov	<u>Return to FAFSA</u>   <u>Log Out   Help</u> <u>Español</u>	
Get My Federal Income Tax Information  See our Privacy Notice regarding our request for your personal information.  Enter the following information from your 2021 Federal Income Tax Return.  Required fields *		
First Name *	Dependent	
Last Name *	Data	
Social Security Number *	*** - ** - 2581	
Date of Birth *	01 / 01 / 1994	
Filing Status * 🕡	Single ▼	
Address - Must match your 2020 Federal Income Tax Return.		
Street Address *		
P.O. Box (Required if entered on your tax return)		
Apt. Number (Required if entered on your tax return)		
Country *	United States	
City, Town or Post Office *		
State/U.S. Territory *	Select One ▼	
ZIP Code *		
Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.	By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.	
Return to FAFSA	Submit	

#### WHAT ARE CONSIDERED ASSETS?



- Cash, savings and checking accounts
- Other real estate, installment and land contracts
- Mutual funds, money market funds, CDs and 529 plans
- Stocks and stock options
- Bonds, commodities and precious metals
- UTMA and UGMA accounts

#### WHAT ARE NOT CONSIDERD ASSETS?



- Retirement accounts (non-education IRAs, 401K, 403B)
- Home you live in
- Cash value of life insurance policies
- Family farm
- Family owned and controlled small businesses (100 or fewer full-time employees)

#### **FILING THE FAFSA**

# **529 College Savings Plans & Prepaid Tuition Plans**

- Treated same as mutual funds,
   CDs and other investments
- For financial aid purposes, if the student is dependent, then the 529 plan is a parent asset

Request funds
1 month
before bill due
date!





# Learn All About Saving For Higher Education.





For parents, grandparents, really anyone interested in saving for higher education, this learning resource is designed to answer most all your questions about college savings options, Ohio's 529 Plan, and when to start.

More savings equals less debt equals more options in life. +

Comparing bank accounts with 529 Plans – plus all the other ways to save. +

Get the facts about Ohio's 529 Plan starting with where you can use it. +

How grandparents and other family members can help save for college. +

When families typically start and add to their college savings. +



> close

#### (i) Info Hul

- > 529s At A Glance
- > All College Savings Options
- > Qualified College Expenses
- > Map of Schools
- > Frequently Asked Questions

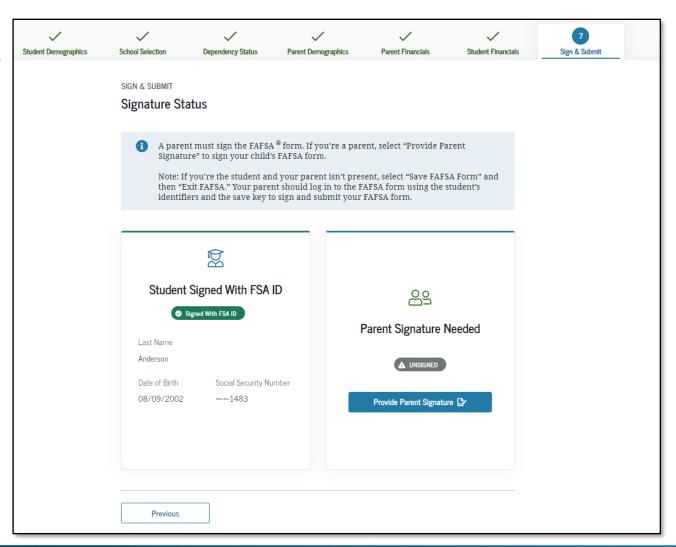
#### Interactive Tools

- > Calculate the Tax Benefits
- > Calculate How Much To Save
- > See When To Start

#### **FILING THE FAFSA: STUDENT SIGNATURE**



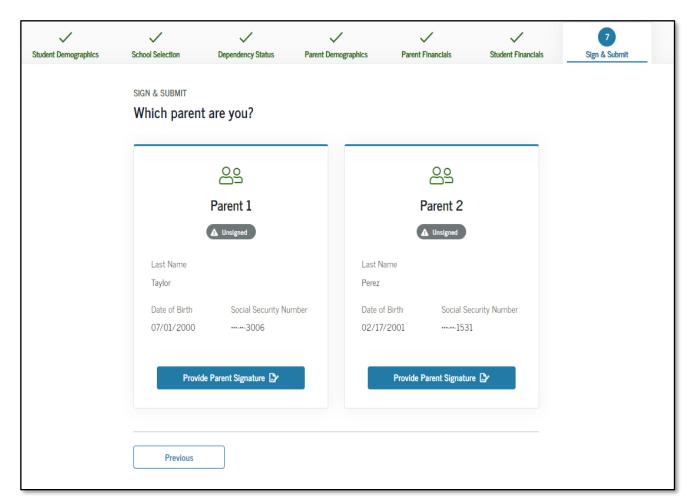
Student will use their FSA ID and password to sign



#### **FILING THE FAFSA: PARENT SIGNATURE**

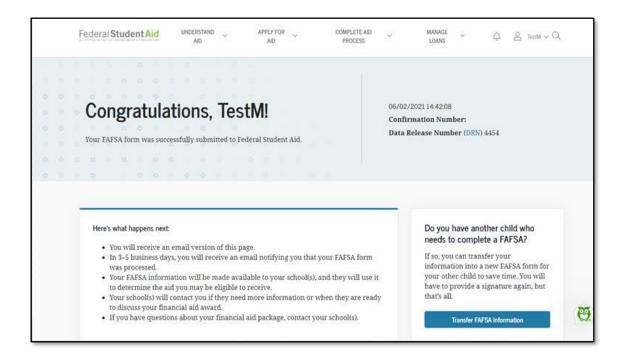


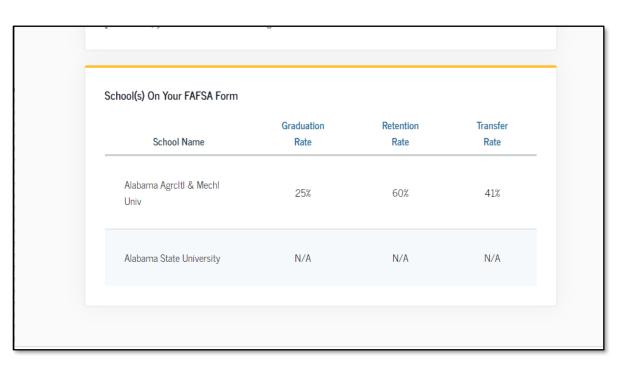
- Parent will use their FSA ID and password to sign
- Only 1 parent needs to sign



#### **FILING THE FAFSA: SIGN & SUBMIT**







# **Confirmation Page**



# **PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT**





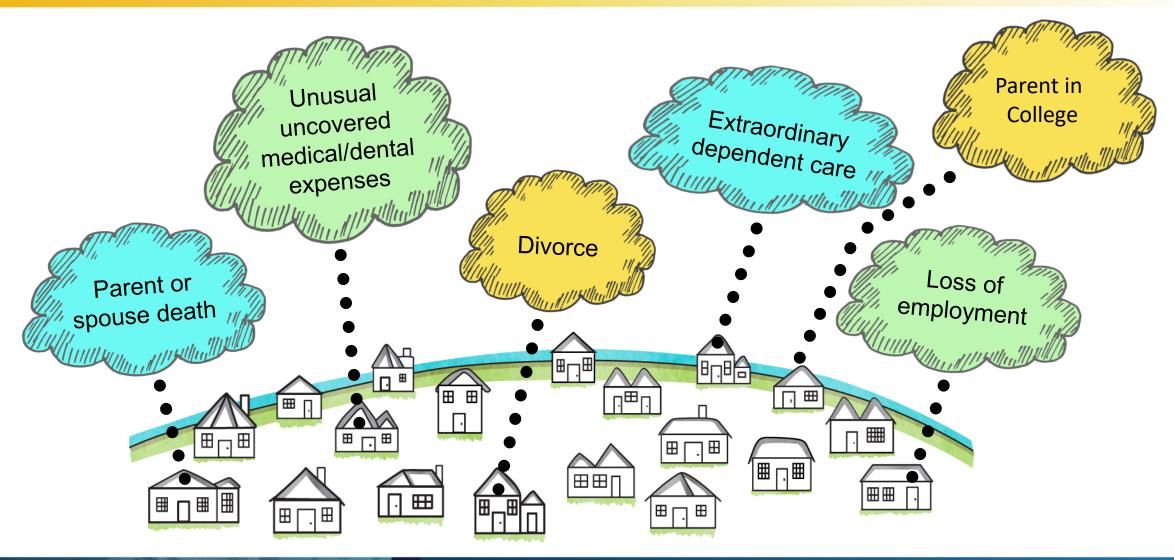
#### **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**



- Conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA
  - Example: Loss of income in 2022 or 2023 due to COVID-19
  - If you suffer loss of income in 2023, contact your school for that information
- Send written explanation and documentation to your college's financial aid office
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education

#### **EXAMPLES OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**





# SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES



#### Dependency Override

- When a student is unable to provide parent information due to extenuating circumstances
  - Example: Someone has legal <u>custody</u> over the student

- Contact your financial aid office for more information
  - Application to complete
  - Not usually online for general public



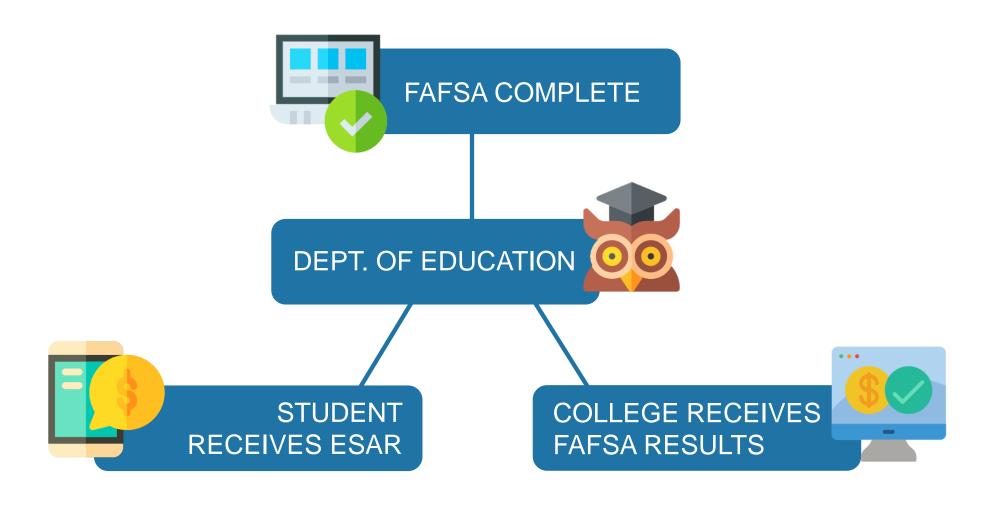
# FINANCIAL AID AWARDING PROCESS





#### FINANCIAL AID AWARDING PROCESS





#### **EFC - EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION**



- EFC is calculated by the U.S. Department of Education
- EFC is an index number, not a dollar amount
- Stays the same regardless of school
  - May be multiple transactions
- Determines if a student is eligible for federal or state grants
  - State grant amounts may differ based on type of university (public vs. private)
- Helps determine a student's financial need

#### **DETERMINING YOUR FINANCIAL NEED**





Financial need determines eligibility for grants and subsidized loans.







#### **TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID**



#### Gift Aid

- Scholarships
- Grants

## Self Help Aid

- Work Programs
- Loans

## **GIFT AID**



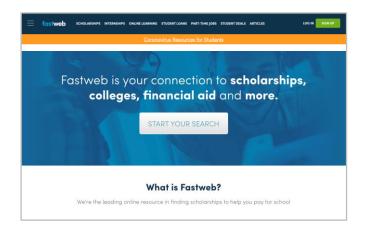
- Pell Grant: Amount will show on your Student Aid Report
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant: Campusbased federal funding
  - Limited funding; important to file your FAFSA early

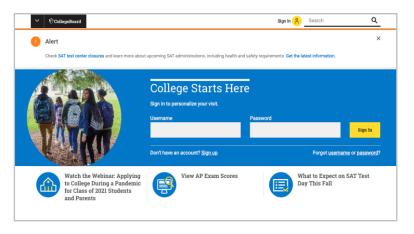
## Scholarships

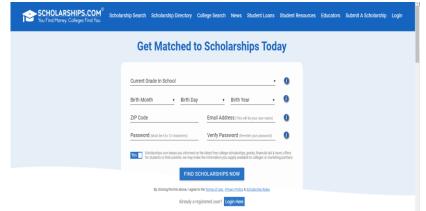
- Part of admission application (check with your school)
- School counselor
- Parents' employers
- Online resources

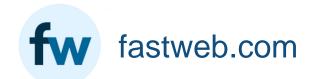
## **SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES**



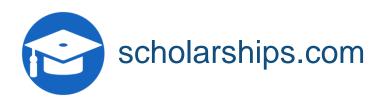








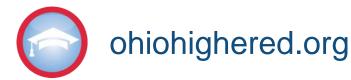




## **OHIO AID PROGRAMS**



- Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)
- Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP)
- Ohio Education & Training Voucher Program (foster care)
- Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund
- Ohio War Orphan & Severely Disabled Veterans Scholarship
- Ohio National Guard Scholarship
- Choose Ohio First Scholarships





## **Student Work Programs**

- Federal Work-Study
  - Student can work part-time while in school
- University Funded Work
  - May be available to students not awarded work-study

### **Federal Direct Student Loans**

- 4.99% fixed interest rate\*
- Subsidized loan
  - Interest free while student is enrolled
  - Low EFC
- Unsubsidized loan
  - Interest is charged to the loan





<sup>\*</sup> Interest rates are set every July 1



## **Federal Parent PLUS Loan**

- 7.54% fixed interest rate\*
- Apply with parent FSA ID and password at studentaid.gov
- Debt obligation of the parent
- Immediate credit decision
- If parent is denied, student can request an additional \$4,000 federal direct unsubsidized loan

<sup>\*</sup> Interest rates are set every July 1



## **Private Alternative Student Loans**

- Requires a co-signer
- Interest rates may be fixed or variable
- Canton Student Loan Foundation
  - Available to Stark County high school graduates
  - Borrow up to \$16,000 toward your education



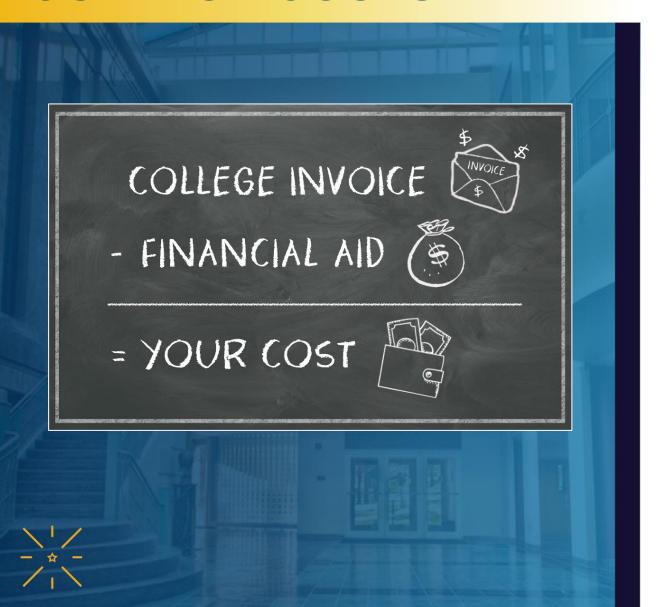


# **COST OF ATTENDANCE (BUDGET)**



- Billable costs like tuition, room and board
- Non-billable costs like books, transportation and miscellaneous expenses
- Varies widely from college to college

## **COLLEGE COSTS**



## **Kent State Stark Example**

COLLEGE COSTS	YEARLY AMOUNT
Tuition and fees*	\$6,962
Room and Board/Living Expenses**	\$3,426
Books, supplies and equipment **	\$1,200
Transportation **	\$2,668
Miscellaneous and personal **	\$2,094
Total	\$16,350

<sup>\*</sup> Based on 2022-2023 Cost of Attendance

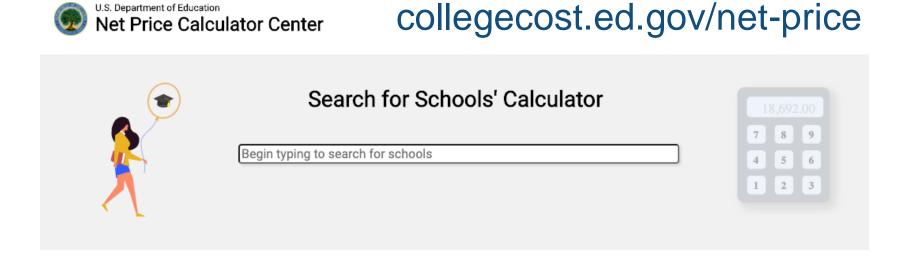
Compared to Kent Campus \$30,922 Compared to College of Wooster \$68,650

<sup>\*\*</sup> Non-billable costs

## **NET PRICE CALCULATOR**



- Helps you understand options for paying for college
- Estimates eligibility for federal student aid









## **CHECKLIST**



- © Complete applications for admission
- Apply for FSA ID
- ✓ Complete the FAFSA beginning Oct. 1
- Q Search for scholarships
- \$ Determine your out-of-pocket costs (Net Price Calculator)
- Once admitted, check your school email regularly for information and updates

## **TIMELINE**





**October - December** 

Complete FAFSA, apply for admission and visit campus



January - March

Review aid package and apply for scholarships



**April - June** 

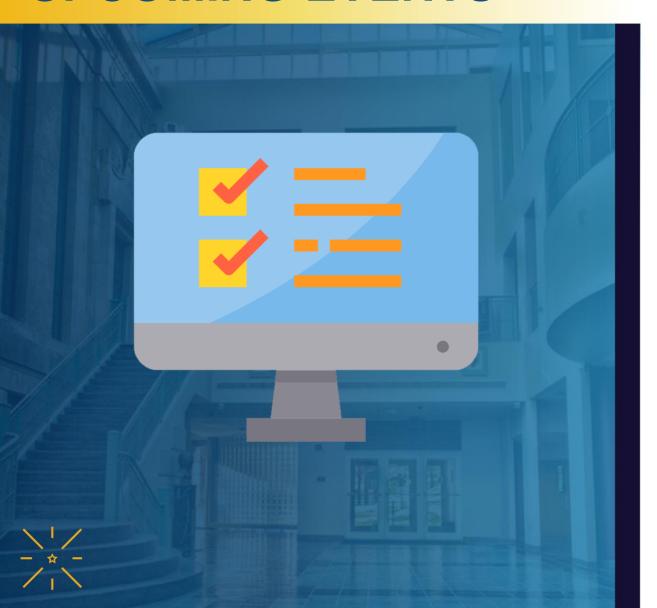
Decide on a college and attend orientation



**July - August** 

Determine out of pocket costs and pay invoice

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



# Virtual Community Scholarship Workshop Saturday, November 5, 2022 10:00am – 11:00am

- Open to the community and not specific to Kent State Stark
- Visit: www.kent.edu/stark/financial-aid

## **CONTACT US**

Student Financial Aid Office
Kent State University at Stark
330-244-3251
starkfinancialaid@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/stark/financial-aid

