

FAFSA Information (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*)

The FAFSA has undergone significant changes with the [FAFSA Simplification Act](#). Families are encouraged to learn about the changes and start to prepare for the 2024-2025 FAFSA. **Even though the FAFSA will not become available by December 31, there are a few things you can do now!**

- **Create** a student and parent [FSA ID](#) (FAFSA ID and Username)
- **Complete** the [CSS Profile](#). Over 400 colleges and universities (mostly private institutions) require the CSS Profile to be completed in addition to the FAFSA. The CSS profile opens on October 1. Watch a video by Coalition Application on completing the CSS [here](#).
- **Read and learn** about Financial Aid. Some great resources are linked below:
 - [Youtube Videos from US Department of Education](#)
 - [Getting Ready for the Better FAFSA-](#) NCAN
 - [SlideDeck from NACAC Conference](#)
 - [College Aid Pro](#)
 - [Are Net Price Calculators Reliable- Webinar by Matt Carpenter](#)
 - [College Essay Guy Paying for College in Four Steps](#)
 - [College Vine- Financial Aid](#)
 - [Niche Financial Aid Resources](#)
 - [The Price You Pay for College](#) by Ron Leiber
 - [National College Attainment Network-](#) FAFSA Tools and Resources
- **Understand the MSFAA:** The MSFAA allows qualified children of undocumented immigrants, who qualify for in-state tuition to apply and be considered for certain types of State need-based financial aid. Click [here](#) to learn more about the MSFAA.
- **Explore the FAFSA Prototype:** Major changes are coming to the 2024–25 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form. The FAFSA prototype offers you an advanced opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the 2024–25 FAFSA form user experience ahead of its release.
- **Visit** the [MHEC](#) (Maryland Higher Education Commission) for state grants and scholarships including delegate and senatorial scholarships, [community college promise scholarship](#), [guaranteed access grant](#), [academic common market](#).