

2024-2025 FAFSA GUIDELINES AND NEW CHANGES

Reduced Questions: The 2024-2025 FAFSA will have fewer questions, reducing complexity for students and families.

More College Choices: Students can now list up to 20 colleges on their FAFSA, doubling the previous limit.

Multiple Languages: The FAFSA will be available in the 11 most common languages spoken by English learner students and parents, enhancing accessibility.

Simplified Tax Info: Starting in 2024-2025, all FAFSA applicants must use the IRS Direct Data Exchange (DDX) to share tax information, streamlining the process.

Contributor Definition: A "contributor" is someone required to provide information on a student's form, ensuring accurate data.

Contributor Responsibilities: Contributors must provide information on the FAFSA, but it doesn't imply financial responsibility for the student's education.

Parent Support: The FAFSA now considers the parent who has provided the most financial support in the last 12 months.

Parent Wizard: A tool helps students identify the correct contributor if they're unsure.

Contributor Changes: Once a contributor is selected, it can't be changed for the full aid year.

Need Analysis Update: The formula no longer considers the number of family members in college, impacting some students.

SAI Replaces EFC: Aid will be determined using the Student Aid Index (SAI) instead of the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Pell Grant Changes: Pell Grant awards will vary based on SAI, with a minimum SAI of -1500.

Alternate EFCs Eliminated: Alternate EFCs for non-9-month enrollment periods are eliminated.

Reporting Assets: Family farms and small businesses must be reported as assets, affecting financial calculations.

Marital Status: Separated students should not indicate they are married on the FAFSA.

Continued Status: Homeless youth, foster care, and court wards will have their status carried over to successive aid years.

Updates Ahead: Be aware that the Department of Education may alter information due to the FAFSA Simplification Act, and we'll keep you informed.