

4 Reasons the FAFSA® Is Easier Than Ever

Don't leave free money on the table. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) starting in December. And the changes made this year make it easier to fill out than ever.

1. Shorter and Faster

There are around **40 questions** and your Federal Tax Information (FTI) can be automatically transferred to your FAFSA.

2. More Grants

More students (nearly 2 million nationwide) will be eligible for **Pell Grants** under the new formulas.

3. Fewer Restrictions

Distributions from 529 Plans that are not owned by you or your parents **no longer impact aid eligibility**.

4. More Options

Students can now send their FAFSA information to up to **20 schools** at a time.

If you have filled out the FAFSA before, there are a few other changes to keep in mind:

- The Student Aid Index (SAI) is replacing the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
- The Student Aid Report (SAR) is changing to the FAFSA Submission Summary.
- For divorced parents, only the parent who contributes the most financial support needs to provide financial information. And child support is counted as an asset, not income.
- The number of students in college per family will no longer factor into aid calculations.



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