

TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE FAFSA

BEFORE YOU START:

- Have your social security numbers and tax returns handy for you and your parents.
- Obtain a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov> (You'll use this as your electronic signature for the application.) Your parent will need to obtain a separate FSA ID.

COMPLETING THE FAFSA:

Website: www.fafsa.gov, click on "start a new FAFSA", go to log in: and use your FSA ID

- Selective service registration - Male students must be registered with the selective service to receive federal or state aid.
- College Degree or Certificate - Since you are applying as a college freshman, select "never attended college/1st year".
- School selection - Must be completed accurately to ensure that the colleges and universities you have applied to will receive your FAFSA information. You must indicate at least one California College or university to be considered for a Cal Grant.
- Dependency determination section - If you answer "No" to each question, at least one of your parents must complete the FAFSA's parent information questions and sign the form using their FSA ID.
- Number of family members - Include yourself, your parents and any other members of the household who receive more than half of their support from your parents.

- Parent Financial Information - The 2020-2021 FAFSA requires tax information from 2018. Your parents should be able to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import their tax information directly into the FAFSA.
- Student Financial Information - The 2020-2021 FAFSA requires tax information from 2018. You should be able to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import your tax information directly into the FAFSA.
- Signatures - You and either parent, may sign electronically using a FSA ID, or print, sign and mail the signature page. (If you don't have access to a printer, a signature page will be mailed to you.) Apply for an FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>.
- Submit Your GPA For a Cal Grant - Bonita High School submits GPAs electronically, so you *do not* need to print the paper GPA Verification Form.
- What is the next step?

Within five days after you submit your FAFSA, you will receive an electronic Student Aid Report (SAR) at the email address you listed on the application. If any information is incorrect, or if you want to add to or change your school selections, make the changes on the SAR and return it to the processor as directed.

If you are selected to receive a Cal Grant, you also will get a California Aid Report. You can check the status of your Cal Grant application at WebGrants 4 Students (<https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov>).

After you are admitted to a college or university, you will receive a financial aid notice (likely through the campus portal) with a summary of the estimated costs of attendance and the financial aid options for which you are eligible.