

September Checklist: Prep for Financial Aid

- ***Download the [FAFSA Fact Sheet](#)***
You should also bookmark the extensive [Federal Student Aid FAQ page!](#)
- ***Create Student AND Parent FSA ID***
Go to fsaid.ed.gov to create an FSA ID. You cannot submit FAFSA without one.
- ***Determine [Who Your “Parent” Is for FAFSA](#)***
- ***See Which of Your Schools Require the [CSS Profile](#)***

Collect ALL of the Info Below!

Student AND Parent 2017

Financial Information

1. Federal Income Tax Form
2. W-2 and 1099 Forms
3. Current bank statements
4. Other asset information
(stocks, bonds, investments)

Other Important Info

1. Your Social Security Number
2. Parents Date of Birth
3. Month & year your parents were married, divorced, or separated

Still have questions? Let us help!
text: 415.723.5022 // email: virtual@scholarmatch.org

Paying for College: FAFSA & CSS 101

[Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)

Obtaining Federal Financial Aid for College

To apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study, and loans, you need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

The FAFSA opens on **October 1, 2019**. We recommend you submit it *as soon as possible* (and suggest you submit by December 15 at the latest).

[CSS Profile](#)

Obtaining Nonfederal Financial Aid for College

The CSS Profile is an online application for *nonfederal aid*. It is used by nearly [400 colleges, universities, and professional programs](#) to determine your financial need. You submit this application *in addition to the FAFSA*. The CSS Profile is much more in-depth and requires more financial information than the FAFSA. The College Board provides a great overview and in-depth information in [this presentation](#).

The CSS Profile opens on **October 1, 2019**.

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