

**National Association of Student  
Financial Aid Administrators Presents ...**

# **What You Need to Know About Financial Aid**

# Karen Hart Bucher, PhD

Director of Student Financial Services  
Shenandoah University

[Kbucher@su.edu](mailto:Kbucher@su.edu)

540.665.4621

# Topics We Will Discuss

- What is financial aid?
- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Expected family contribution (EFC)
- Financial need
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- Special circumstances

# What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses



# What is Cost of Attendance (COA)?



Tuition and fees



Room and board



Books and supplies

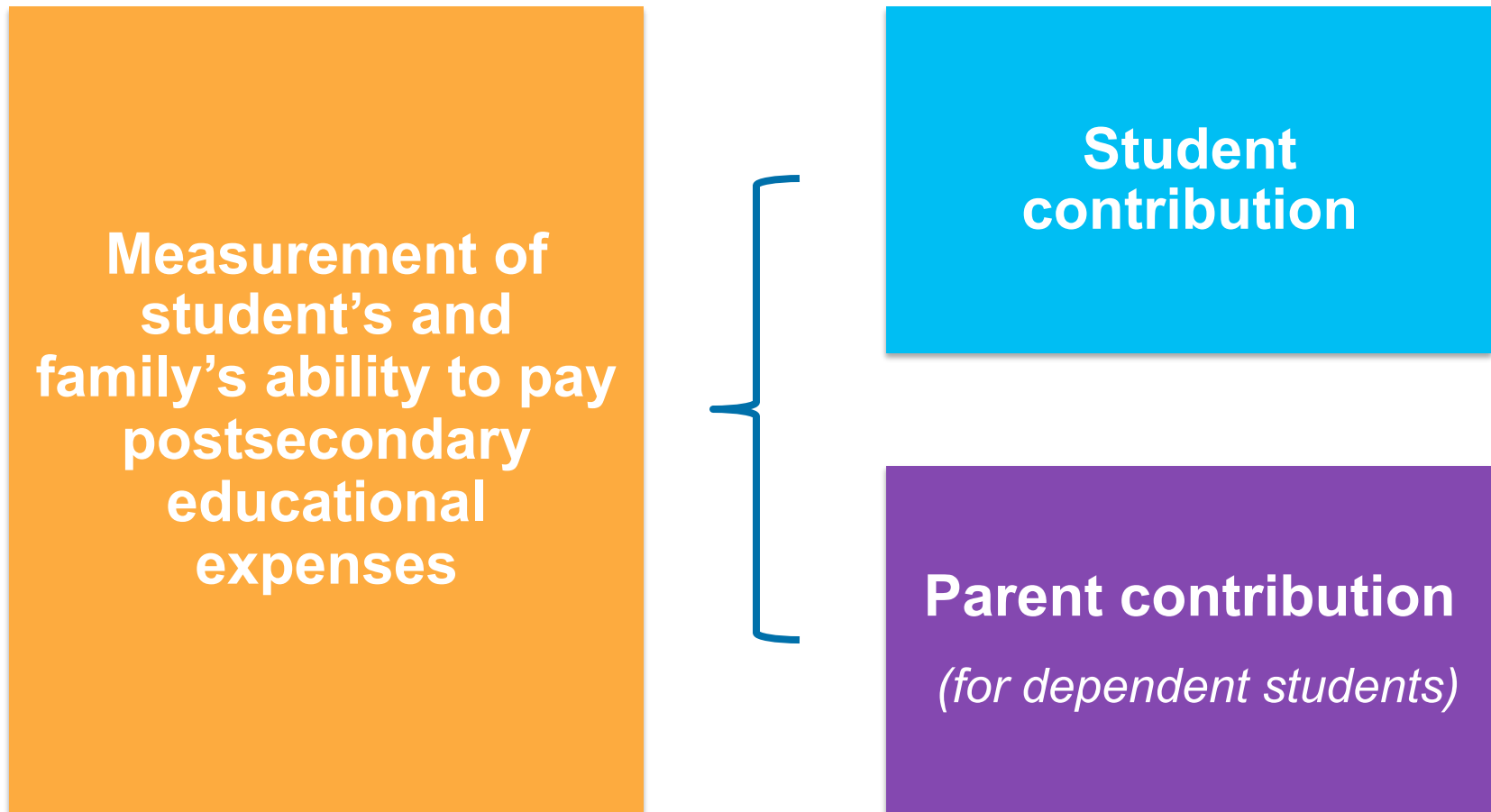


Transportation



Miscellaneous personal expenses

# What is Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?



# What is Financial Need?

**Cost of attendance (COA)**

**– Expected family contribution (EFC)**

---

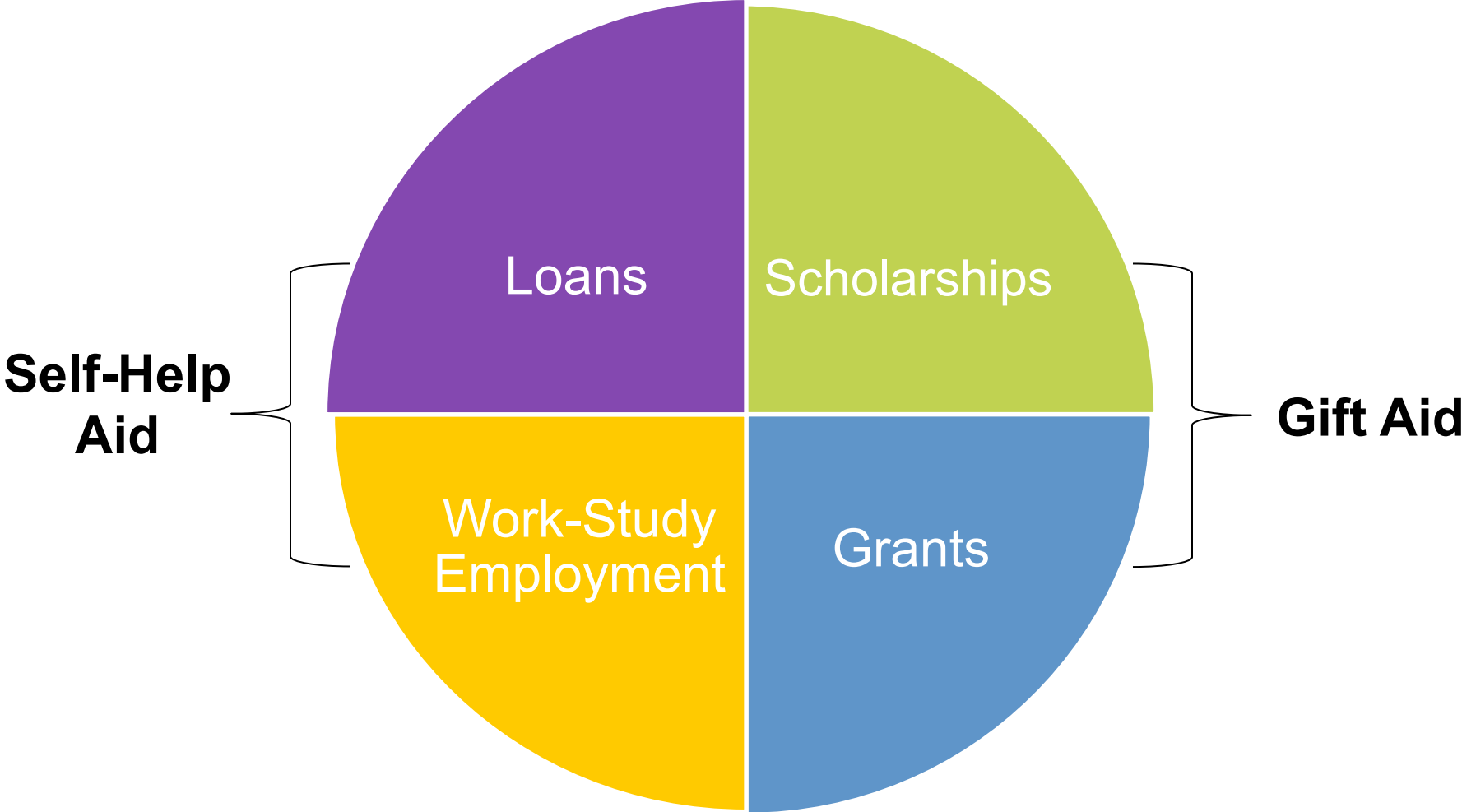
**= Financial need**

# Categories of Financial Aid

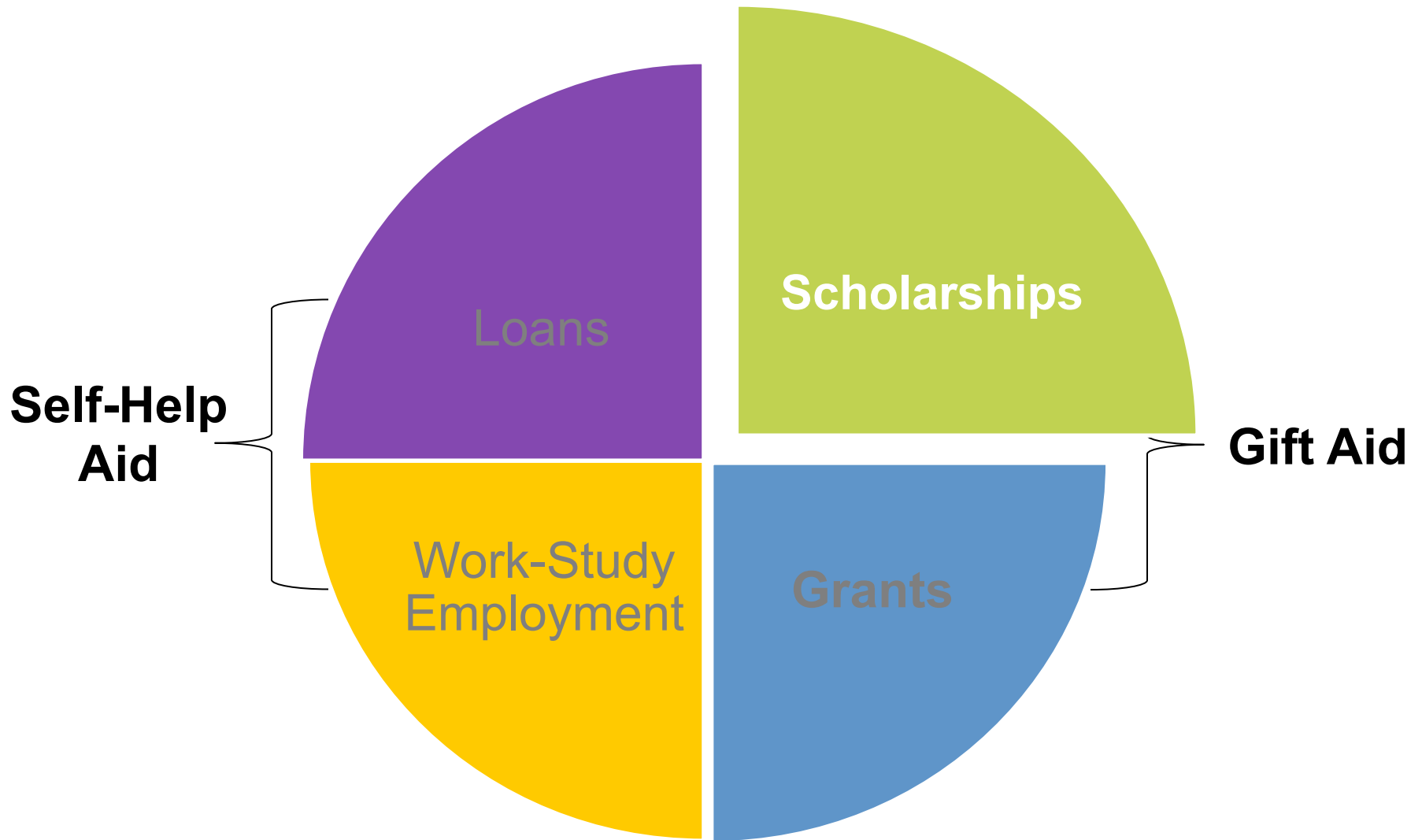




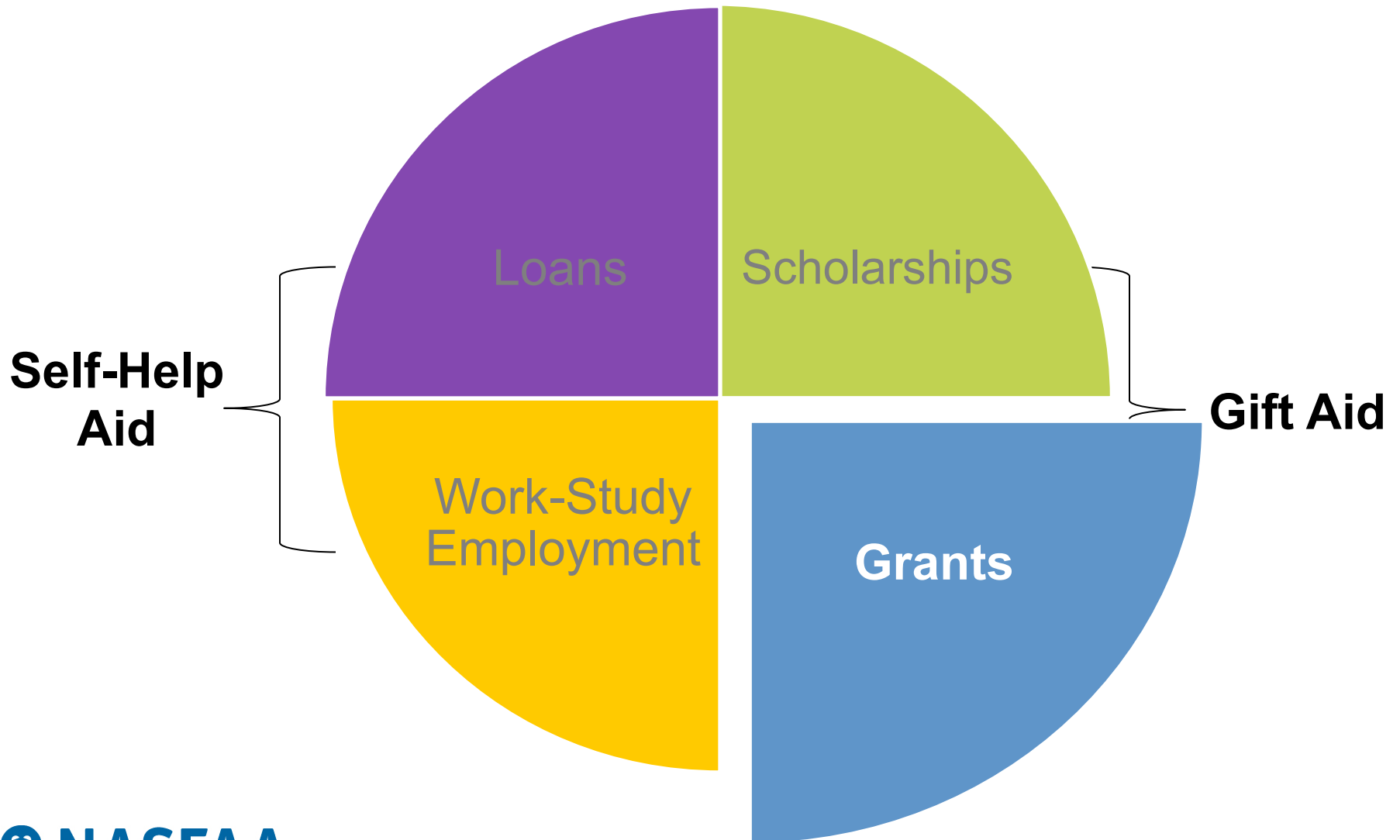
# Types of Financial Aid



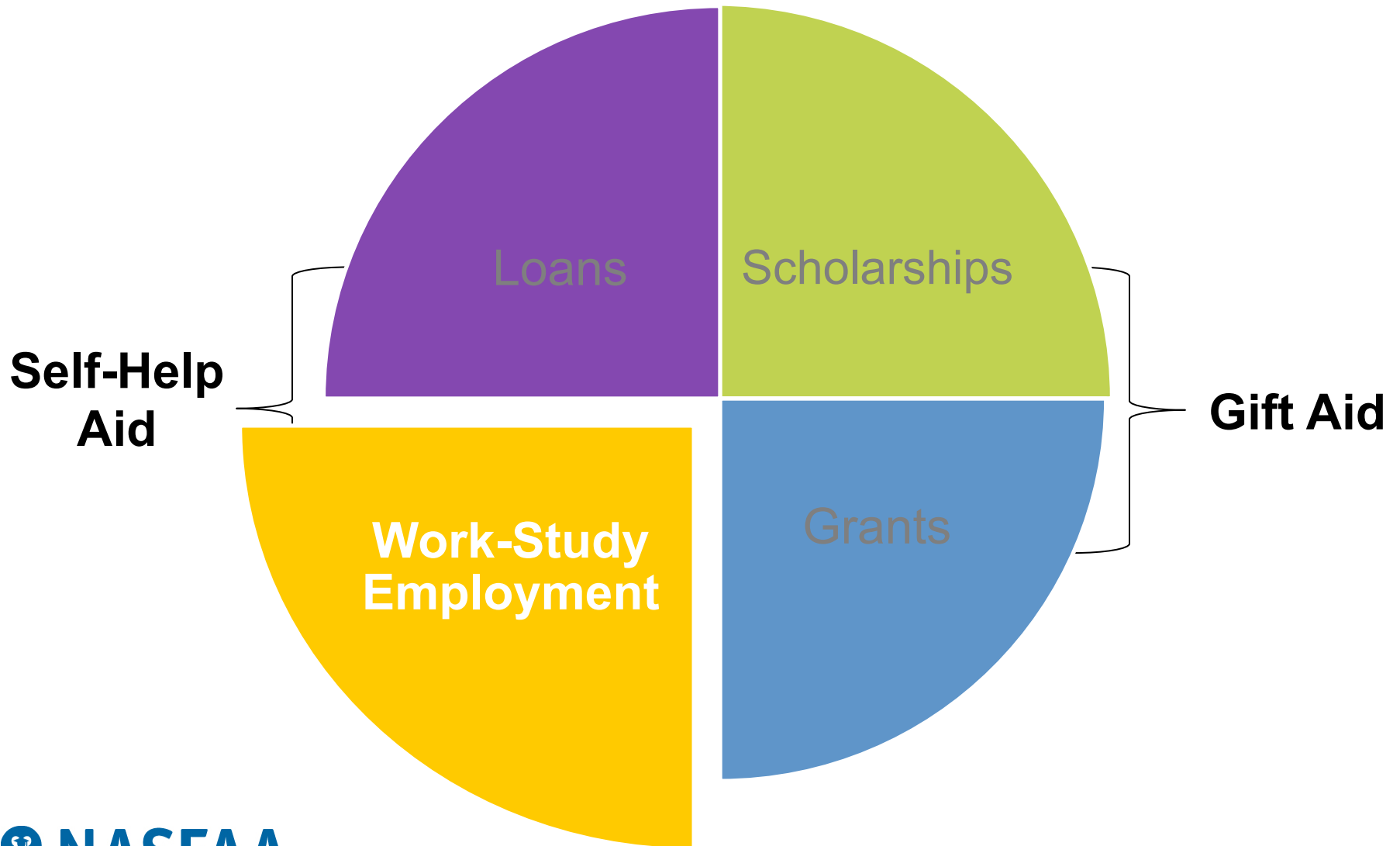
# Scholarships



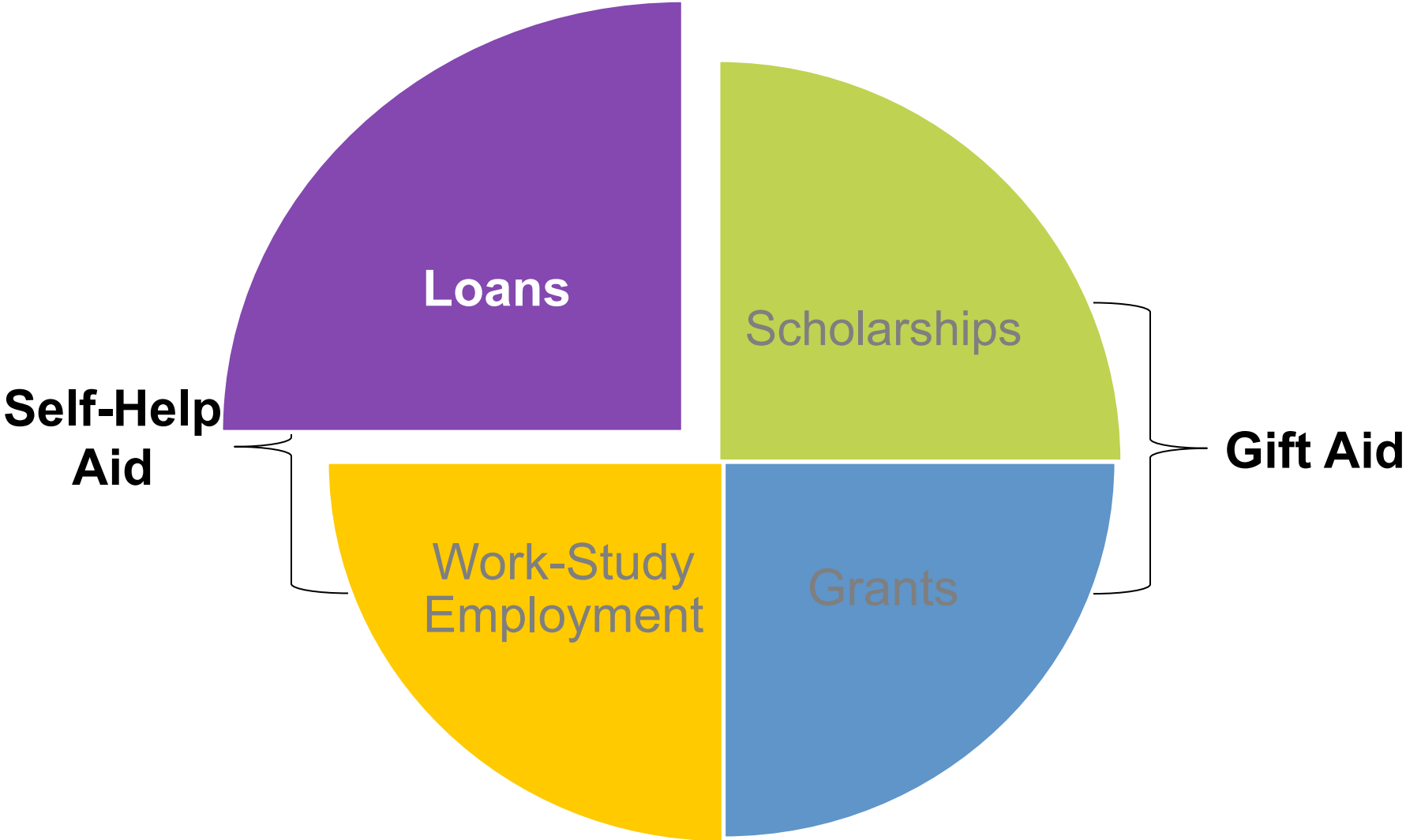
# Grants



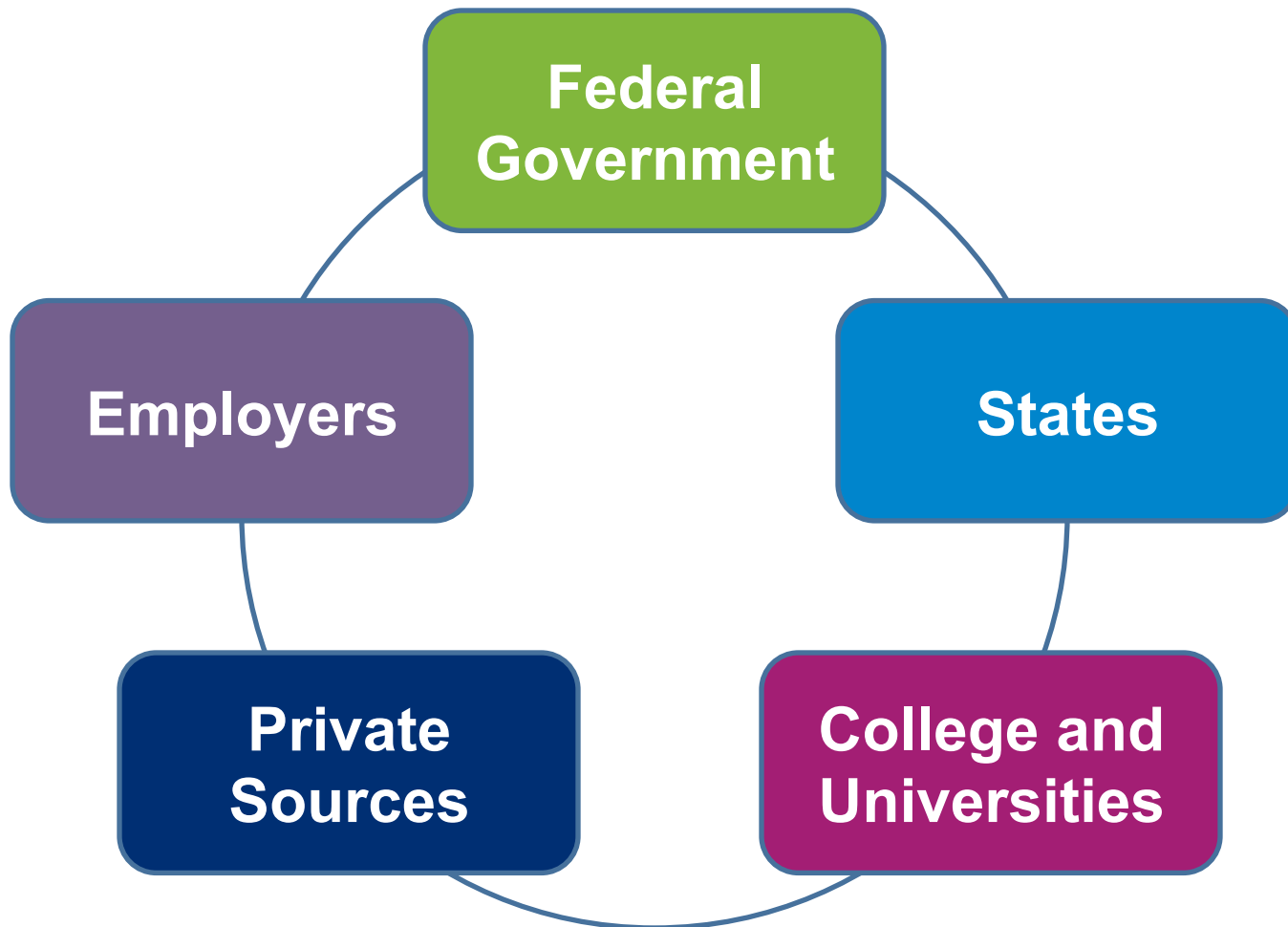
# Work-Study Employment



# Loans



# Sources of Financial Aid



# Federal Government

Largest source of financial aid

Aid awarded primarily on the basis of financial need

Must apply each year using the FAFSA

Eligibility requirements must be met

# Federal Student Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grant

Iraq Afghanistan  
Service Grant

Federal  
Supplemental  
Educational  
Opportunity Grant  
(FSEOG)

Teacher Education  
Assistance for  
College and Higher  
Education (TEACH)  
Grant

Federal Work-Study  
(FWS)

Federal Direct  
Student Loans  
(Direct Loans)

Federal PLUS Loans



# States

Residency requirements usually apply

Award aid on the basis of both merit and need

Use information from the FAFSA and/  
or state aid applications

Deadlines vary by state

# Colleges and Universities

Award aid on the basis of both merit and need

Aid may be gift aid or self-help aid

Use information from the FAFSA and/  
or institutional applications

Deadlines and application requirements  
vary by institution

# Private Sources

Foundations, businesses, churches, civic, and charitable organizations

Deadlines and applications procedures vary

Begin researching private sources early

# Employers

May have scholarships available to the children of employees

May have educational benefits for their employees

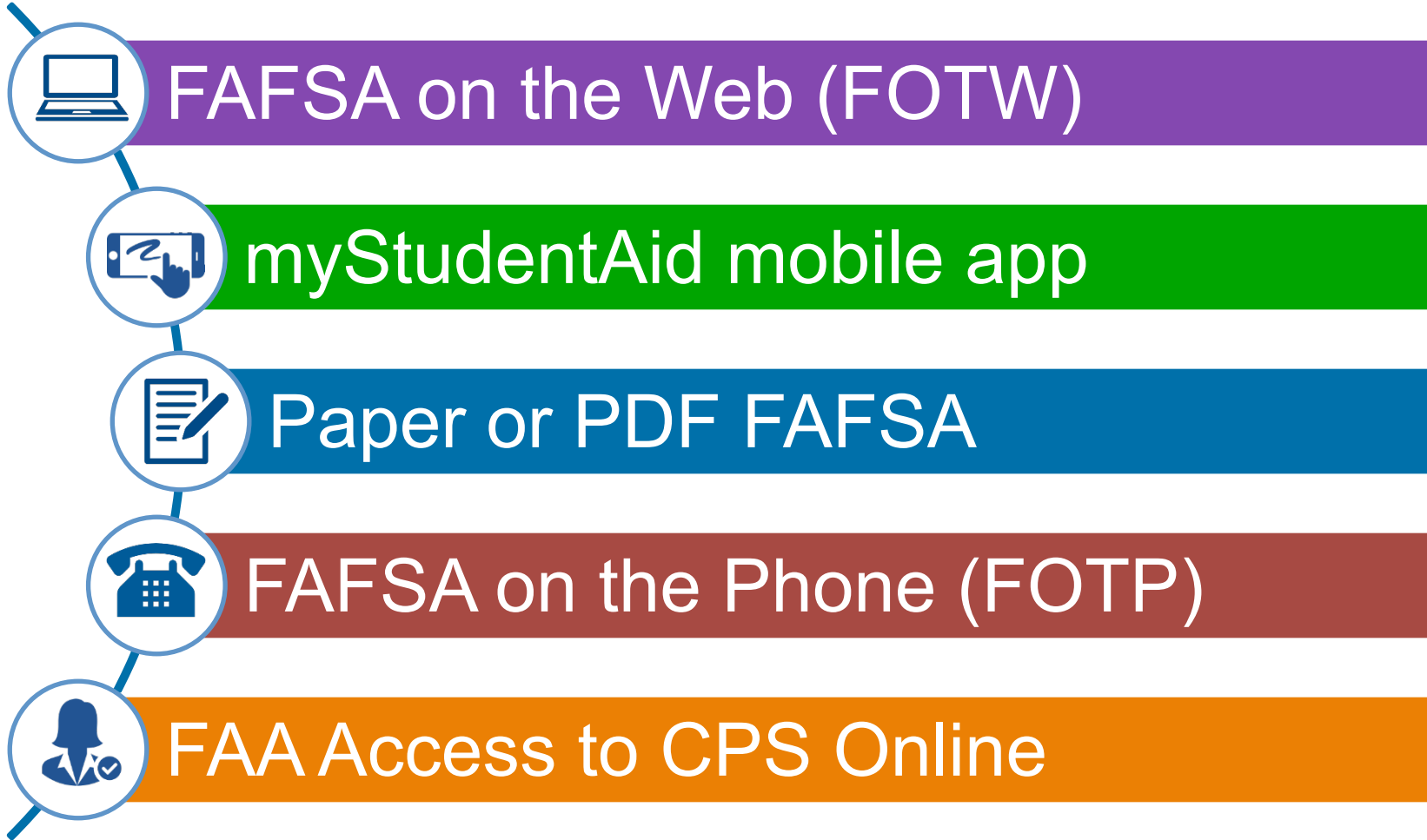
# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- Collects demographic and financial information
- Information used to calculate the expected family contribution (EFC)
- Colleges use EFC to award financial aid
- Available in English and Spanish
- **Complete starting October 1: [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)**

# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but no earlier than October 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- For the 2020-21 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed beginning October 1, 2019
- Colleges may set FAFSA priority dates

# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)



# Benefits of Using FOTW or myStudentAid

- Built-in edits to prevent costly errors
- Skip-logic allows student and/or parent to skip unnecessary questions
- Option to use Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Data Retrieval Tool to import tax data



# Benefits of Using FOTW or myStudentAid

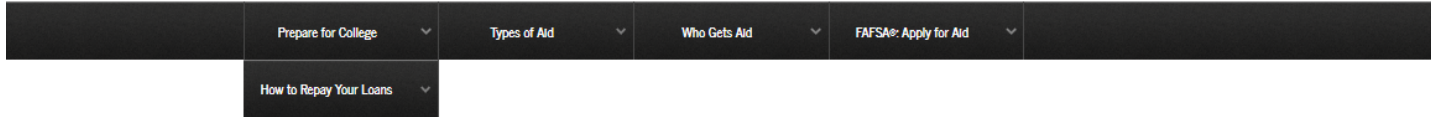
- More timely submission of original application and any necessary corrections
- More detailed instructions and “help” for common questions
- Ability to check application status online
- Simplified application process in the future

# FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of  
the AMERICAN MIND®

Search FAFSA® Help



## FAFSA®: Apply for Aid

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school.

### NEW TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS?

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

[START HERE >](#)

### RETURNING USER?

Correct info • Add a school  
View your *Student Aid Report (SAR)*

[LOG IN >](#)

### FAFSA® Announcements

- Customers who are using an Apple device (mobile and/or desktop) may encounter errors on some FAFSA fields if the “smart punctuation” feature is enabled. This feature changes apostrophes and quotation marks to invalid characters that the FAFSA form cannot recognize. [Learn about solutions for this error.](#)
- Check out the [myStudentAid app](#) for iOS and Android.
- To get the best experience, **make sure your browser's pop-up blocker allows pop-ups from fafsa.ed.gov** before logging in to the FAFSA form.

The FAFSA form will be unavailable due to scheduled maintenance every Sunday from 3-11 a.m. Eastern time.



### Early Aid Estimate

Use *FAFSA4caster* to get a free early estimate of your eligibility for federal student aid.

[LEARN ABOUT FAFSA4CASTER >](#)



### FAFSA® Help

Learn how to fill out the FAFSA form, and browse common FAFSA topics.

[GET FAFSA® HELP >](#)



### After the FAFSA® Form

Find out what to expect after you fill out the FAFSA form, including when and how your aid will be paid out.

[LEARN ABOUT NEXT STEPS >](#)

# FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

## Login

### Log in to the FAFSA

Only students may use their FSA ID to log in. Parents and others can start a FAFSA for a student by entering the student's identifiers. Parents and others can also work on a FAFSA form or correction the student started using the **Save Key** that the student made. [Help for parents.](#)

Form Approved  
OMB No. 1845-0001  
App. Exp. 12/31/2020.

I am the student

OR

I am a parent, preparer, or student from a Freely Associated State

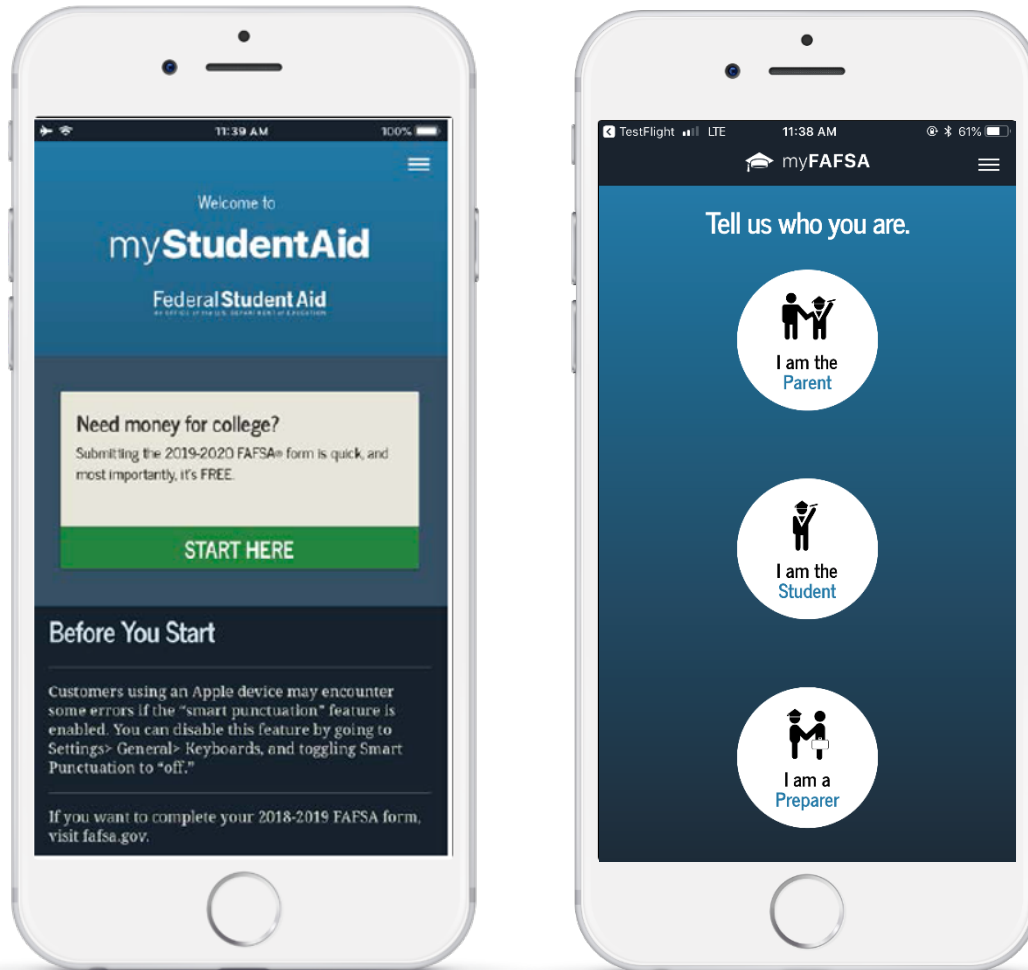
NEXT 

Site Last Updated: Sunday, June 30, 2019

Download [Adobe Reader](#)

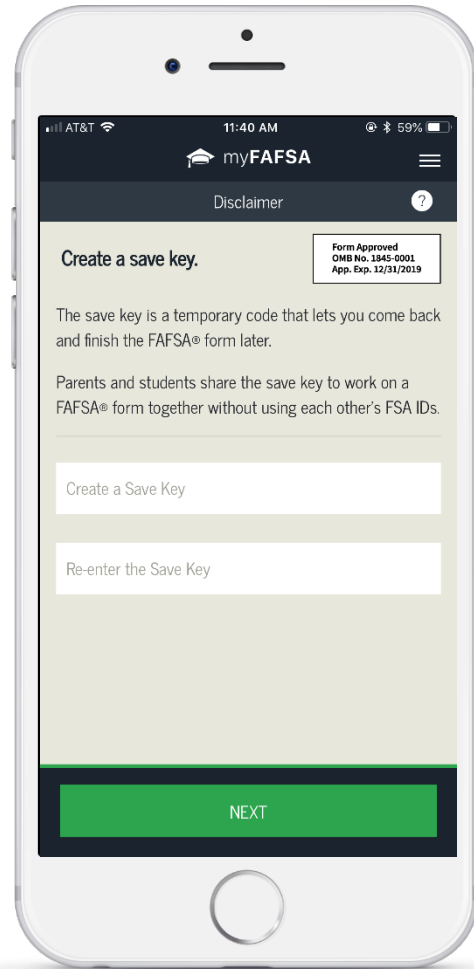
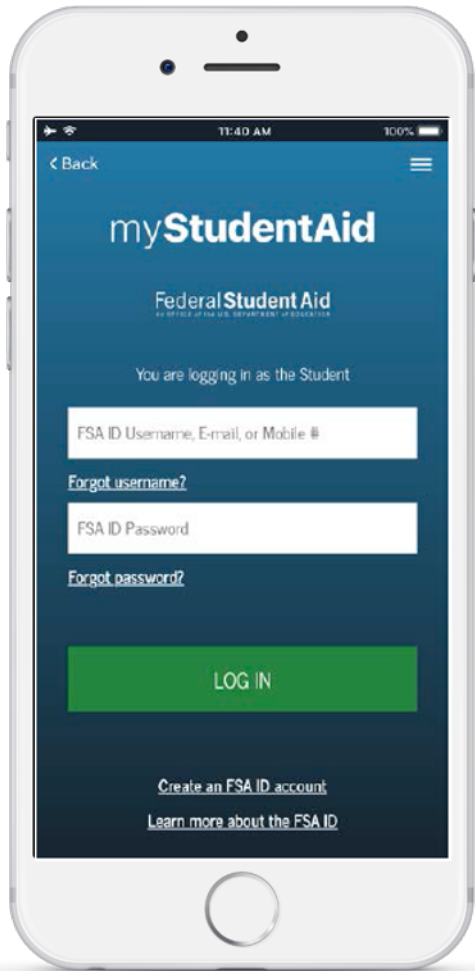
©2010 fafsa.gov. All rights reserved.

# myStudentAid Mobile App



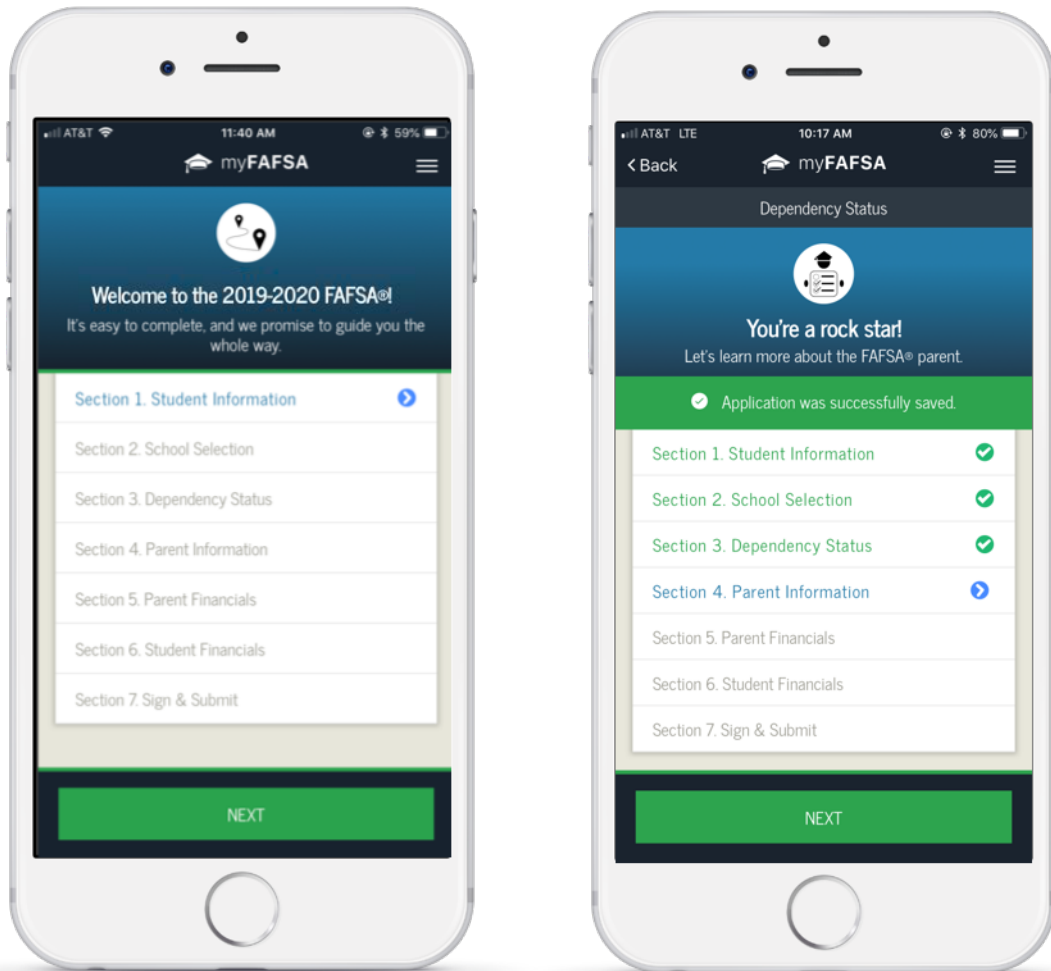
- Mobile ability to begin, complete, save, and submit the FAFSA

# myStudentAid Mobile App



- Information protected the same as FOTW
- Prompts applicant to create a save key, allowing completion at later time

# myStudentAid Mobile App



- FAFSA completion tracked
- Successful completion of each section indicated
- Agreement of terms checkbox
- Confirmation of submission
- Estimated EFC Calculation

# IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)

- Allows for certain tax return information to be transferred from the IRS database
- Participation is voluntary and student chooses whether or not to transfer data to FOTW
- IRS will authenticate taxpayer's identity
- If tax record is found, IRS transfers information to populate the FAFSA
- Reduces documents requested by financial aid office

# IRS Data Retrieval Tool

## Certain tax filers cannot use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Did not indicate on FAFSA a tax return was completed

Marriage date is January 2019, or later

First three digits of the SSN are 666

Filed a non-U.S. tax return

Married and filed as head of household, or filed separate returns

Neither married parent entered a valid SSN

Non-married parent or both married parents entered all zeroes for the SSN



# FSA ID

- Used for FAFSA completion and allows access to certain U.S. Department of Education websites
- May be used by students and parents throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
- Only the owner should create a FSA ID
- Apply at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION | the AMERICAN MIND®

## Create a New FSA ID

An FSA ID is a username and password that gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member.

You are not allowed to have an employee or agent of a commercial entity, or other third party, create an FSA ID for you for any purposes including but not limited to: payment reductions, debt consolidation or applying for aid. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

*Important: When you are done, select the CANCEL button to clear your data even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires.*

Create an FSA ID

Manage My FSA ID

Create your FSA ID username and password below.

Username

Password

Numbers  Uppercase Letters  Lowercase Letters  8-30 Characters  Show Text

Confirm Password

CONTINUE >

# FOTW Worksheet

**SECTION 3 - PARENT INFORMATION**

**Who is considered a parent?**  
"Parent" refers to a biological or adoptive parent or a person determined by the state to be a parent (for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate). Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, older siblings, and uncles or aunts are **not** considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted you. If your legal parents are living and married to each other, answer the questions about both of them. If your legal parents are not married and **live together**, answer the questions about both of them. In case of divorce or separation, give information about the parent you lived with most in the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give information about the parent who provided you the most financial support during the last 12 months or during the most recent year you received support. If your divorced or widowed parent has remarried, also provide information about your stepparent.

**Providing**  
Parent 1 (f...  
Parent 1 (f...  
Parent 1 (f...  
 Check

**Did you**  
If your par...  
the IRS Da...  
easily, acc...  
informatio...

**What wa**  
Skip this q...  
1040A—li...

**SECTION 1 - STUDENT INFORMATION**

After you are online, you can add up to ten colleges on your FAFSA. The colleges will receive the information from your processed FAFSA.

Student's Last Name	First Name	Social Security Number
---------------------	------------	------------------------

**Student Citizenship Status** (check one of the following)

U.S. citizen (U.S. national)       Neither citizen nor eligible noncitizen

Eligible noncitizen (Enter your Alien Registration Number in the box to the right.)

**Your Alien Registration Number**

**Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are:**

- A permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551);
- A conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C);
- The holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Parolee" (I-94 confirms parolee for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), "T Visa holder (T 1, T 2, T 3, etc.)" or "Cuban Haitian Entrant;" or
- The holder of a valid certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services showing a designation of "Victim of human trafficking;"

**Student Marital Status** (check one of the following)

Single       Married or remarried       Separated       Divorced or widowed

You will be asked to provide information about your spouse if you are married or remarried.

**Selective Service Registration**

If you are male and 25 or younger, you can use the FAFSA to register with the Selective Service System.

**What is the highest school parent 1 completed?**

Middle school/Jr. high       College or beyond  
 High school       Other/unknown

**What is the highest school parent 2 completed?**

Middle school/Jr. high       College or beyond  
 High school       Other/unknown

**SECTION 2 - STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS**

- Preview of questions that may be asked regarding basic information for the student and parent, if applicable

# General Student Information

- Social Security Number
- Citizenship status
- Marital status
- Drug conviction of possession or sale
- Selective Service registration
- Highest education level completed by father/  
mother

# Student Dependency Status

FAFSA asks questions to determine dependency status for Title IV federal student aid (not IRS) purposes:

- If all “No” responses, student is dependent
- If “Yes” to any question, student is independent

# Information About Parents of Dependent Students

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Dislocated worker status
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits in the previous two years
- Assets
- Untaxed income

# Information About Student (and Spouse)

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Dislocated worker status
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits in the previous two years
- Assets
- Untaxed income

# Additional Information

- College information
- Housing plans
- FAFSA preparer information

# Signatures

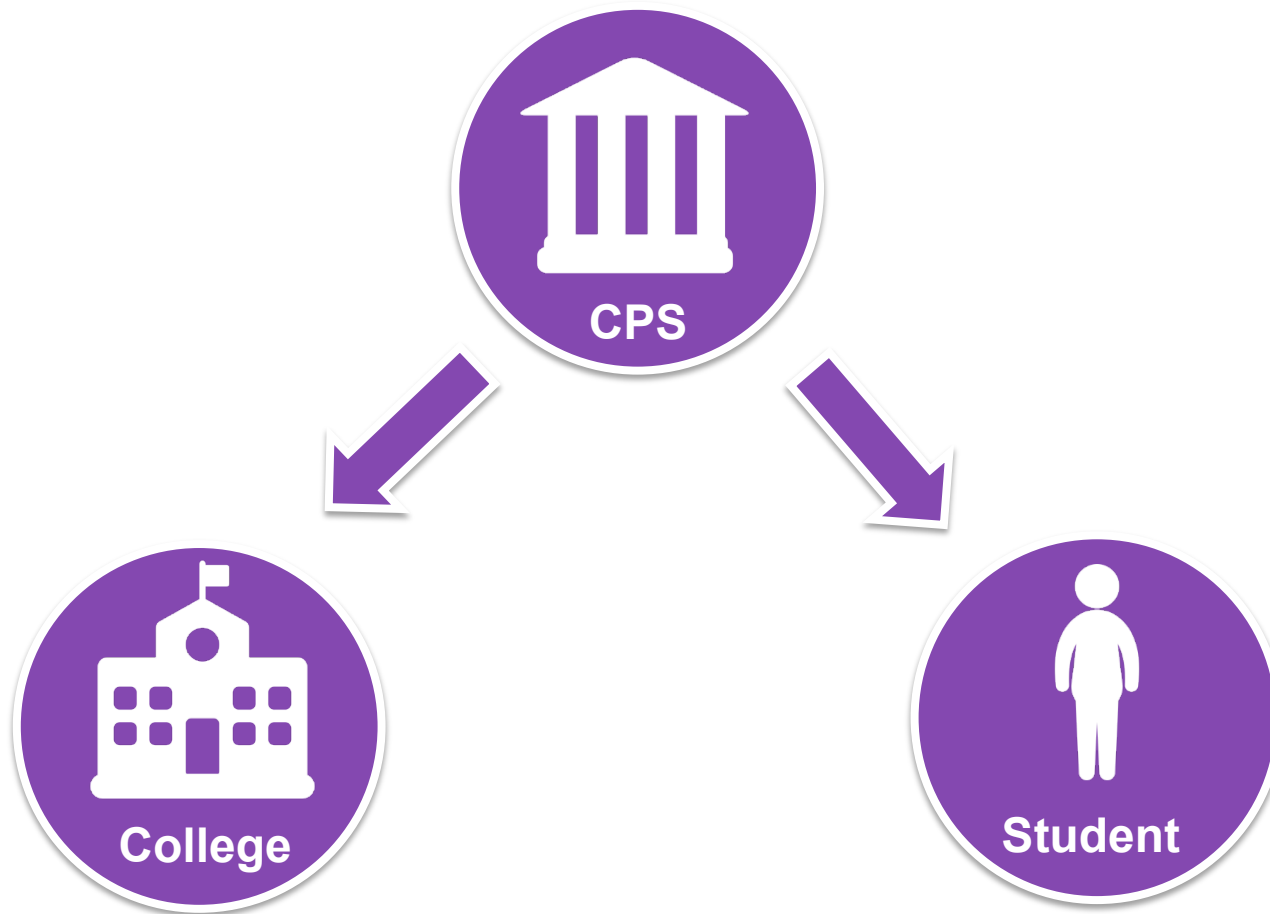
- Required
  - Student
  - One parent (dependent students)
- Format for submitting signatures
  - Electronic using FSA ID
  - Signature page
  - Paper FAFSA



# Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Social Security Numbers
- Divorced/widowed/remarried parental information
- Income earned by parent/stepparent
- Untaxed income
- U.S. income taxes paid
- Household size
- Number of household members in college
- Real estate and investment net worth

# FAFSA Processing Results



# Email Notification of SAR Processing

**SAR** for 2019-2020  
(Student Aid Report)  
Form Approved OMB No. 1845-0001  
App. Exp. 12/31/2020

966-09-0001 DE 01  
EFC: 9620C

The grids below contain information from your student aid application (shaded items display parent information, if provided). This is your copy of your application data for your records only. Do NOT mail this document or a copy of this document to the U.S. Department of Education. We will not return this copy to you. You may make corrections from the Department of Education's web page ([fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)). You must use your FSA ID to access your record online.

1. Student's Last Name	DEMOCOFFAULT
2. Student's First Name	ROGAN
3. Student's Middle Initial	
4. Student's Permanent Mailing Address	2345 RIVER TEST ROAD
5. Student's Permanent City	WASHINGTON
6. Student's Permanent State	DC
7. Student's Permanent ZIP Code	20510
8. Student's Social Security Number	999-99-0001
9. Student's Date of Birth	11/02/1981
10. Student's Telephone Number	(888)881-0212
11. Student's Driver's License Number	
12. Student's Driver's License State	
13. Student's E-mail Address	
14. Student's Citizenship Status	U.S. CITIZEN (OR U.S. NATIONAL)
15. Student's Alien Registration Number	
16. Student's Marital Status	SINGLE
17. Student's Marital Status Date	
18. Student's State of Legal Residence	DC
19. Was Student a Legal Resident before January 1, 2014?	YES
20. Student's Legal Residence Date	
21. Is the Student Male or Female?	FEMALE
22. Require Student with Selective Service System?	
23. Drug Conviction Affecting Eligibility?	ELIGIBLE FOR AID
24. Parent 1 Educational Level	
25. Parent 2 Educational Level	
26. High School or Equivalent Completed?	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
27a. Student's High School Name	INDEPENDENCE
27b. Student's High School City	NEW YORK
27c. Student's High School State	NY
28. First Bachelor's Degree Before 2019-2020 School Year?	NO
29. Student's Degree and/or College in 2019-2020	PHD/PHD/JUNIOR
30. Type of Degree/Certificate	1ST BACHELOR'S DEGREE
31. Interested in Workstudy?	
32. Student Filed 2017 Income Tax Return?	ALREADY COMPLETED
33. Student's Type of 2017 Tax Form Used	999/990
34. Student's 2017 Tax Return Filing Status	SINGLE
35. Student Eligible to File a 1042A or 1042EZ?	YES
36. Student's 2017 Adjusted Gross Income	\$ 42,500
37. Student's 2017 U.S. Income Tax Paid	\$ 7,100
38. Student's 2017 Exemptions Claimed	1
39. Student's 2017 Income Earned from Work	\$ 42,500
40. Spouse's 2017 Income Earned from Work	
41. Student's Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts	\$ 0.00
42. Student's Net Worth of Current Investments	\$ 0.00
43. Student's Net Worth of Businesses/Investment Farms	\$ 0.00
44a. Student's Education Credits	\$ 0.00
44b. Student's Child Support Paid	\$ 0.00
44c. Student's Taxable Savings from Need-Based Employment Programs	\$ 0.00
44d. Student's College Grant and Scholarship Aid Reported to IRS as Income	\$ 0.00
44e. Student's Taxable Combat Pay Reported in AGI	\$ 0.00
44f. Student's Cooperative Education Earnings	\$ 0.00
44g. Student's Payments in Tax-Deferred Pensions & Retirement Savings	\$ 0.00
44h. Student's Deductible Payments to IRA/Keogh/Other	\$ 0.00
44i. Student's Child Support Received	\$ 0.00
44j. Student's Tax-Exempt Interest Income	\$ 0.00
44k. Student's Unearned Portions of IRA Distributions	\$ 0.00
44l. Student's Unearned Portions of Pensions	\$ 0.00
44m. Student's Housing, Food, & Living Allowances	\$ 0.00
44n. Student's Veterans Noneducation Benefits	\$ 0.00
44o. Student's Other Unearned Income or Benefits	\$ 0.00
44p. Money Received or Paid on Student's Behalf	\$ 0.00

PAGE 1 OF 7  
966-09-0001 DE 01

- If valid email address is provided on FAFSA
- Provides access to electronic SAR at [www.fafsa.gov](https://www.fafsa.gov)

# SAR or SAR Acknowledgement

- SAR sent if paper FAFSA filed without providing an email address
- SAR Acknowledgement sent if FOTW filed without providing an email address

The image shows two overlapping screenshots of FAFSA documents. The top document is a 'STUDENT AID REPORT 2020-2021' for JOHN SMITH, dated APRIL 22, 2020. The bottom document is a 'STUDENT AID REPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 2020-2021' for JOHN SMITH, dated NOVEMBER 23, 2020. Both documents include contact information for the student and instructions regarding the report.

**STUDENT AID REPORT 2020-2021**

HTTPS://FAFSA.GOV OMB No. 1845-0001  
APRIL 22, 2020 DATA RELEASE NUMBER (DRN): 9755  
000001C001 F 211 2021 EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC): 000000\*\*C

JOHN SMITH  
742 EVERGREEN TERRACE  
SPRINGFIELD OH 45555

Dear JOHN SMITH,  
Your Student Aid Report (SAR) summarizes the information you submitted on your Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Application Status (review the checked boxes)**

- Your FAFSA appears to be complete. Review the data if necessary. The school(s) listed on your FAFSA will report your information to the financial aid office at one of the schools you listed on your FAFSA.
- Your FAFSA has been selected for verification. Your school has the authority to request other information that you reported on your FAFSA.

**Federal Student Aid Eligibility (review the checked boxes)**

The data submitted on your FAFSA is used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is not the amount of money that your family must contribute to determine how much financial aid you will receive. It is an index that colleges use to determine how much financial aid you will receive. It is not the amount of money that your family must contribute. It is an index that colleges use to determine how much financial aid you will receive. It is not the amount of money that your family must contribute. It is an index that colleges use to determine how much financial aid you will receive.

- Based on your EFC it appears that you may be eligible for federal student aid. You may also be eligible for other grants, work-study opportunities, and low-interest student loans.
- We sent your information to other federal agencies to determine if you are eligible for other federal student aid. You may be eligible for other federal student aid. You may be eligible for other federal student aid.

You should keep this SAR for your records!

REVEN00001 999 PAGE 1 OF 3

**STUDENT AID REPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 2020-2021**

HTTPS://FAFSA.GOV OMB No. 1845-0001  
NOVEMBER 23, 2020 DATA RELEASE NUMBER (DRN): 2245  
000117C041 F 211 2021 EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC): 000000\*\*C

JOHN SMITH  
742 EVERGREEN TERRACE  
SPRINGFIELD OH 45555

Dear JOHN SMITH,  
Your Student Aid Report (SAR) Acknowledgement summarizes the information you submitted on your 2020-2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Application Status (review the checked boxes)**

- Your FAFSA appears to be complete. Review the data on pages 2 and 3. We may have assumed certain information to calculate your eligibility for federal student aid. We printed any assumptions we made and the word "assumed" for the items on the back of this page. If you need to make corrections, you can go to <https://fafsa.gov> and use your FSA ID to access your information or you can contact the financial aid office at one of the schools you listed on your application for assistance. The school(s) listed on your FAFSA will receive your information.

**Federal Student Aid Eligibility (review the checked boxes)**

The data submitted on your FAFSA is used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is 000000.

The EFC is not the amount of money that your family must provide. Rather, you should think of the EFC as an index that colleges use to determine how much financial aid you would receive if you were to attend their school. Financial aid may include grants (free funds that do not have to be repaid), work-study (paid part-time employment), and/or low-interest loans (borrowed funds that must be repaid). This award information will vary from college to college because the cost of attending each is different. Please note that your EFC is subject to change if you update or correct your FAFSA. For more information about the EFC and other sources of aid, go to [StudentAid.gov](https://StudentAid.gov).

- Based on your EFC it appears that you may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$5,395, provided you have not met or exceeded the lifetime limit established for the Federal Pell Grant program. You may also be eligible for other grants, work-study opportunities, and low-interest student loans. Your Financial Aid Administrator (FAA) will determine what types of aid and how much you are eligible to receive.
- We sent your information to other federal agencies through computer matching programs to verify your eligibility for federal student aid and there appears to be an issue with the information provided on your application. You can review information about these issues by going to <https://fafsa.gov> and selecting "View or Print your Student Aid Report (SAR)" after logging in. You must work with your financial aid office to resolve any data matching issues before we can determine if you are eligible to receive federal student aid.
- Unless you are completing the verification process, it may be too late for you to make corrections or give us any more information this year. If you are completing verification and you need to correct your information, contact the Financial Aid Administrator (FAA) at your school for assistance. We must have your corrections no later than **September 11, 2021**.

You should keep this SAR Acknowledgement for your records!

999999C999 PAGE 1 OF 3 01234567891SM01



# Making Corrections

If necessary, corrections to FAFSA data may be made by:

- Using FAFSA on the Web, if student has a FSA ID;
- Updating paper SAR; or
- Submitting documentation to college's financial aid office.

# Special Circumstances

- Conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA
- Send written explanation and documentation to your college's financial aid office
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education

# Special Circumstances

Unusual uncovered  
medical/dental  
expenses

Secondary  
school tuition

Extraordinary  
dependent care

Parent or  
spouse  
death

Loss of  
employment

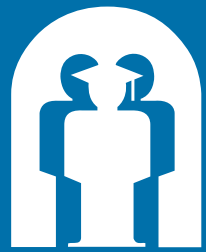
Divorce

Student  
cannot obtain  
parental  
information





*Questions?*



# NASFAA

---

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS