

Helpful Guide on Completing the FAFSA

Coastal Alabama Community College

Financial Aid Department

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Completing the FAFSA on studentaid.gov

(The 2021-2022 FAFSA will be available October 1st)

Visit studentaid.gov and follow the steps to create your FSA ID and Password:

- Click on the tab "Apply For Aid"
- Click on "Complete the FAFSA form"
- Click on the "Start here" tab
- Click on the "I am the student" section and create an FSA ID and password

Link to creating the FSA ID and Password:

https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to complete federal student aid tasks.

After you create the FSA ID and password, go back to the home page studentaid.gov and follow the steps above to complete the FAFSA. Now you will be able to login using the FSA ID and password that you just created.

Starting Your FAFSA® Form

- Provide your personal basic information
- List college(s) so the school can receive your FAFSA application
- Answer questions to determine either dependency or independency status
- If dependent student, next you report parents' information
- Provide parents' financial information (the 2021-2022 FAFSA will ask for 2019 tax information)
- Sign the FAFSA electronically and submit.

Getting Help

If you need help filling out the FAFSA form, use these free tools:

- Select the blue and white question mark icon next to a FAFSA question to view a "tool tip" that provides information about how to answer that question.
- In the online FAFSA form, the tool tip may have a "More Help" link for additional information. You also can select the "Help" button at the bottom of the tool tip to reach the <u>"FAFSA Help"</u> page, where you can browse FAQs, search for more information, or click on "Contact Us."
- Once you click on "Contact Us," you'll have the option of emailing us with your question or, during business hours, chatting (in English or Spanish) with live technical support

staff. (In the myStudentAid mobile app, you can find the contact information via the "hamburger menu"—the three parallel lines at the top right of the screen.)

Helpful YouTube FAFSA videos

Below is a link to multiple videos on FAFSA including (FAFSA, applying for aid, repaying loans, FSA ID, and types of aid)

https://www.youtube.com/user/FederalStudentAid

Below are a few popular videos from the link above:

- FAFSA: Apply for Aid: (Process of filling out the FAFSA)
 - 1. FAFSA Overview: learn how the FAFSA gives your access to grants, loans, and work study jobs that can help fund your education
 - 2. How to Fill out the FAFSA
 - 3. Overview of the Financial Aid Process
- <u>Repay Your Loans: (learn about the loan repayment process)</u>
 - 1. Student Loan Repayment Options: several repayment plans available, providing flexibility)
 - 2. Responsible Borrowing: to learn your responsibilities as a borrower and what you should consider when taking out loans for college
- FSA ID (user name and password)
 - 1. How to create your FSA ID
 - 2. What to do if I forgot my FSA ID username
- Types of Aid
 - 1. Types of federal student aid

FAFSA questions

Below is a link to the popular FAFSA questions

https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/help

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to call or email. Thanks

Financial Aid Representative Coastal Alabama Community College Office: 251.580.2151 Email: <u>financial_aid@coastalalabama.edu</u>