

for New Mainers

Financial aid can make paying for higher education much easier! All students should submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). All schools use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for federal and state financial aid, and many schools use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their institutional financial aid.



1. Gather information

Both the student and the parent(s) will need the following information to create a Federal Student Aid account (FSA ID) and file the FAFSA. Gathering it ahead of time will make the process easier.

- Social Security number*
- Alien Registration Number, if applicable
- Email address
- 2022 federal tax return

*Parents who don't have a Social Security number can still create an FSA ID. See our [FSA ID Tracking Sheet for those without a Social Security number](#) for instructions. When creating a Federal Student Aid account (FSA ID) and filing the FAFSA, click the box indicating you don't have a Social Security number and provide the required information.



2. Create a Federal Student Aid account (FSA ID) at [StudentAid.gov](#)

When you create a Federal Student Aid account, you'll set up an FSA ID (username and password). You'll need an FSA ID to file the FAFSA and to enter any Federal Student Aid websites. It also serves as your legal signature.

All students need an FSA ID, and at least one parent will need an FSA ID. If parents live together but aren't married or don't file a joint tax return, both of them will need an FSA ID. You'll need your FSA ID for years to come, so we recommend using the appropriate FAME FSA ID Tracking Sheet to keep track of your information:

[Download Student FSA ID Tracking Sheet](#)

[Download Parent FSA ID Tracking Sheet](#)

[Download FSA ID Tracking Sheet for those without a Social Security number](#)



3. File the FAFSA at StudentAid.gov

The 2024-2025 FAFSA became available December 30, 2023. It has a student section and a parent section. Either the student or the parent can start the FAFSA. Whoever starts the FAFSA will need to “invite” the other person to complete their section by providing the other person’s legal name, date of birth, Social Security number, and email address.

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FAFSA Help for New Mainers



**Get free help from FAME’s New Mainer Specialist,
Floreka Malual**

Contact Floreka via:

Email: fmalual@FAMEmaine.com

Phone: 207-620-3530

Are you a new Mainer looking for information on higher education or credential evaluation?

Visit [FAMEmaine.com/NewMainers](https://www.famemaine.com/NewMainers)