

Dear Parents,

Did you know that nearly \$8 out of every \$10 in student financial assistance requires the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)? The FAFSA is the first critical step in applying for financial assistance yet, so many students and families are unaware of the financial assistance options available to them, how to apply and the steps required for financial success.

You can help your college-bound seniors by encouraging their attendance and joining them at an upcoming College Goal FAFSA event!

[Your HS/Institution Name] is hosting a College Goal FAFSA workshop with staff and trained volunteers who will work with families to help their students complete a FAFSA. Visit <https://collegegoal.az.gov/high-school-fafsa-workshops> for more details.

If you are unable to complete a FAFSA at our high school, your family can receive **FREE** help at a College Goal FAFSA community event. Visit <https://collegegoal.az.gov/fafsa-workshop-events> to find a community workshop near you.

Filing the FAFSA early benefits your child in multiple ways:

- ✓ Scholarships or grant awards may only be available on a first come, first serve basis. Applying early can increase their chances of being awarded maximum funding.
- ✓ Eligible students usually have their financial aid file complete and awards in place prior to the start of the fall semester.
- ✓ If your student has not decided which institution they will be attending, the FAFSA results can be sent to multiple schools. Communicating with these schools after they receive the FAFSA may help your student in making a decision.

In order to complete the 2020-2021 FAFSA, you and your student will need:

- Social Security Number or Alien Registration (USCIS) Number, if you are not a U.S. citizen.
- Parent's Social Security Number, if your student is a [dependent](#).
- A FSA ID. If you do not already have one, visit <https://fsaid.ed.gov>. For additional information on the FSA ID visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid>.
- 2018 Tax Return, W-2s, or records of money earned.
- Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, interest income, and Veteran's non-education benefits in 2018.

- Current information on cash, savings and checking account balances, investments including stocks and bonds and real estate but not including the home in which you live, and business and farm assets.
- If you did not file taxes, you will need your 2018 W-2s, and other records of money earned. If you filed your 2018 taxes, you may be able to easily transfer your federal tax return information into your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

To access other helpful financial aid information and resources please visit <https://collegegoal.az.gov>. For questions or other information about Arizona's College Goal FAFSA Program you may contact the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education by phone at (602) 542-7230 or by email at [acpe@azhighered.gov](mailto:acpe@azhighered.gov).

Be sure and follow Arizona's College Goal FAFSA on [Facebook/CollegeGoalAz](#) and [Twitter @CollegeGoalAZ](#) for updates and information!