

FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student
Aid

2009-2010



Filling out the FAFSA

- Sections 1,2,4 & 5 should be filled out at school online (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>) and saved by end of January.
- We encourage you and your students not to wait...If you wait there is a possibility that funds may run out.

Getting Started

- The first step is to have the student apply for a Pin at www.pin.ed.gov
- The FAFSA website is www.fafsa.ed.gov
Click on *Fill Out Your FAFSA*
- Complete Sections 1,2,4 & 5 and save with a password the student will remember (write it down and keep it in their portfolio).

Section 3: Parental Information

- Section 3 must be filled out by parents (2008 taxes are required).
- They may complete the FAFSA online or complete the Section 3 paper worksheet and return it to school to have the information added online at school.
- If the parent chooses to complete it at home, the parent must also apply for a pin at www.pin.ed.gov in order to electronically sign and submit the application.

- If the parent chooses to fill out Section 3 at home and return it to school to be added online, then the teacher **must** print the signature page and send it home.
- The signature page has to be signed by student and parent and mailed to:

Federal Student Aid Program

P.O. Box 7001

Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Special Circumstances

- There are certain situations when Section 3 : Parental Information does **not** have to be completed:
 - Both of the parents are incarcerated.
 - The student has left home due to an abusive family.
- * In these cases the student would leave the parental section blank and contact the FAA (Financial Aid Administrator) at the college the student wishes to attend.

Students that may apply as independent:

- If the student answers yes to any of the following question (Section 2) they will be considered independent and ***do not*** have to provide parental information:
- Were you born before January 1, 1986?
- As of today, are you married?

- Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you?
- At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?
- Are you or were you an emancipated minor?
- Are you or were you in *legal* guardianship?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2008, were you determined to be homeless?

Section 5:

- Commonly used school codes:

MSJC 001246

RCC 001270

Palomar College 001260

COD 001182

After the application is submitted:

- The student will receive a report called a Student Aid Report or SAR by e-mail or by postal mail.
- On the upper right of the front page of the SAR is the Expected Family Contribution or EFC. A copy of this must go to the students DOR Counselor.

