



# **After the FAFSA- What Happens Next?**

## What to Know After Finishing the FAFSA

FAFSA 201:  
FAFSA BOOTCAMP  
SEPTEMBER 2025

# After the FAFSA

## Today's Agenda

- FAFSA Statuses and Submission Summary
- The ISIR
- Corrections
- Special or Unusual Circumstances
- Verification
- Conflicting Information
- Financial Aid Notifications Explained
- Categories of Financial Aid





## A student's FAFSA will be in one of these statuses on studentaid.gov

- **Draft:** Your section of the FAFSA form is incomplete.
- **In Progress:** You provided your consent, approval, and signature to your section of the FAFSA form, but the FAFSA form has not been submitted yet because it is missing information or an action from a contributor.
- **In Review:** Your FAFSA form was submitted but hasn't been processed yet.
- **Action Required:** You are missing your consent and approval or signature, or the FAFSA form was processed, but a correction is required.
- **Processed:** Your application was processed successfully. No further action is needed.
- **Closed:** Your FAFSA form was never submitted and can no longer be submitted because the federal FAFSA deadline passed.



# FAFSA Submission Summary Sections

**Student receives email and can view the submission summary at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) under My Activity**

## **Eligibility Overview**

- Estimate of Pell Grant and federal student loan amounts
- Calculation of Student Aid Index (SAI)

## **FAFSA Form Information**

- Student reviews info they submitted
- Student or other contributor may make corrections directly from this screen

## **School Information**

- Student ensures all schools of interest are on the list
- Student may add or delete schools here or update through the correction (update) process

## **Next Steps**



## Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)

- ISIR is electronic record of student FAFSA submission received by colleges and universities listed on FAFSA
- ISIR includes technical data necessary to validate student aid eligibility and to package correct amounts of aid funds
  - ✓ Applicant's Student Aid Index
  - ✓ Student's full application data
  - ✓ Eligibility matches (SSA, DHS, VA)
  - ✓ Student's federal loan history
  - ✓ Comments, assumptions, and reject reasons



## Corrections and Unusual/Special Circumstances

- Certain corrections can be initiated by student or parent(s) after FAFSA submission
- Some corrections resulting from verification, resolution of conflicting information, or professional judgment decision must be made by college or university financial aid office
- Student considered to have unusual circumstance if they indicated on FAFSA that they are unable to use parent(s) as contributor because of unusual circumstance even if they are normally considered dependent
  - ✓ Student's FAFSA is processed with student as provisionally independent, but school must confirm independent status if student documentation of unusual circumstance is approved
- Student may also request that college or university review special circumstances such as income reduction or significant asset value change

# Selected for Verification?

Typically, students are selected according to this criteria:

- **Random selection**
- **Triggered selection**
  - FSA is debuting an algorithm to select certain students for identity verification based on certain fraud and abuse triggers.
  - Other triggers MAY be low income or Pell eligibility.
- **Schools may also select a student for verification if they have policies related to institutional selection or are attempting to resolve conflicting information**
- **Successful IRS Data Transfer into FAFSA often fulfills income verification process**
  - Income earned from work must be verified if tax return was not filed
  - Divorced or separated contributors who filed 2023 taxes jointly must be prepared to verify their portion of income if selected for verification
- **Family size must also be self-verified if FAFSA is selected for verification**





## What About Conflicting Information?

- A school is required to address conflicting information whether or not a FAFSA is selected for verification
- Common examples of conflicting information include questions on the status of a student's high school diploma, academic progress, enrollment, and tax filing status, or a parent's income, asset, and family size information as well.
- ISIRs contain "C codes" (comment codes) which may trigger an institutional review of possible conflicting information
- Final financial aid awards and disbursement are contingent upon resolution of verification and conflicting information items



# Students may qualify for any or all of the categories of aid below



## **Need-based gift aid**

Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG), institutional grant(s)

## **Self-help aid**

Federal or private student loans, Federal Work-Study. NOTE; Federal Subsidized Loan and Federal Work-Study require financial need but eligibility is less restricted than federal grants

## **Merit aid**

Internal or external scholarships (although some may also have need component)  
Scholarships may be one-time only or renewable

# SAMPLE UNIVERSITY

## Award Letter Example

Dear Joe Sample:

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Office of University Financial Aid has prepared this statement using the following criteria:

Academic Level  
& Housing



**Academic Level:** Undergraduate Freshman  
**Dependency Status:** Dependent  
**College:** Undergraduate  
**Major/Program of Study:** Non-Declared Major  
**Housing Category:** On-Campus Housing

COA



**ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE:** **\$55,000**  
 Tuition and fees: \$39,000  
 Housing and meals: \$13,000  
 Books and supplies: \$ 1,000  
 Personal and miscellaneous: \$ 2,000

Awards  
Offered



### AWARD

	Description	Fall	Spring	Total	Accepted Y/N
1	President's Scholarship	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	Y/N
	Federal Pell Grant	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$1,200.00	Y/N
	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	Y/N
2	State Scholarship	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$900.00	Y/N
3	Federal Work-Study (FWS)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	Y/N
	Federal Perkins Loan	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00	Y/N
	Federal Stafford Loan – Subsidized	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00	Y/N
	Federal Stafford Loan – Unsubsidized	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	Y/N
	<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$34,100.00</b>	

Total Awards  
Offered



# Q&A Session





## Contact Information

### **Diana Mateer**

College & Career Financial Aid Manager

College Depot, Phoenix Public Libraries

[Diana.mateer@phoenix.gov](mailto:Diana.mateer@phoenix.gov)

602.489.0965

### **Julie Sainz**

Director of FAFSA & College Access Initiatives

[Julie.Sainz@azregents.edu](mailto:Julie.Sainz@azregents.edu)



**Thank you**