

If your information falls into the wrong hands, it could cost you time and money to restore your good name and credit status. To keep your financial reputation intact, follow these helpful tips.



Secure your Social Security number and don't share it with anyone.



Filter your email and don't respond to unsolicited requests for information.



Beware of those around you when you're using an ATM or typing passwords.



**Collect** your mail promptly and remember to put it on hold while you're traveling.



**Track** billing cycles to make sure you receive your bills and statements; contact senders if they're late.



**Review** your receipts and compare them with your account statements.



Shred items containing personal information, like credit offers, statements, and expired cards.



Check your credit report once a year for accuracy.



**Install** firewalls and virus-detection software on your home computer.



**Create** hard-to-guess passwords and change them frequently.



If you think you've been the victim of identity theft, contact your consumer financial institutions, file a report with the Federal Trade Commission, and get in touch with your local law enforcement.

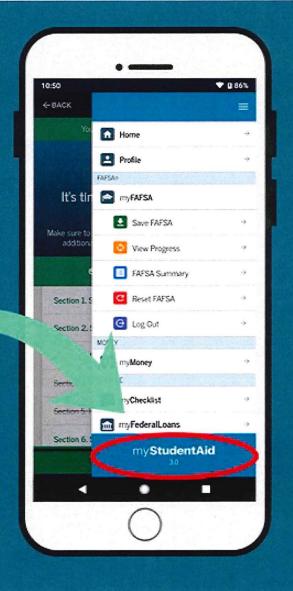
For more financial literacy tools and resources, visit **SallieMae.com/FICO**.

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YOUR FIRST STEP IN APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

## WWW.FAFSA.GOV

FEDERAL AND STATE AID APPLICATION

## WWW.TAP.HESC.NY.GOV/TOTW/

IF YOU MISSED THE LINK AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR FAFSA – APPLY FOR NEW YORK STATE TAP

#### WWW.HESC.NY.GOV

NEW YORK STATE FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION (TAP, APTS, EOP, EXCELSIOR)

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FEDERAL AID ESTIMATOR

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INFORMATION ON AID FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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## WWW.NSLDS.ED.GOV

HISTORY OF ALL AID/LOANS YOU'VE RECEIVED

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FREE SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

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