# What You Need to Know About Financial Aid



#### What is FAFSA® and Financial Aid?

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid-Standard FREE form that collects information about the student and the parent. You do not pay to submit the FAFSA.
- Financial Aid Funds provided to students to help pay for educational expenses.





### What is Cost of Attendance (COA)?

Direct costs (tuition, fees, room & board)

Indirect costs (transportation, personal expenses)

Varies widely from college to college



#### What is Student Aid Index(SAI)?

Measurement of student's and parent's ability to pay postsecondary educational expenses

Student contribution

**Parent contribution** 

(for dependent students)



#### What is Financial Need?

Cost of Attendance

Student Aid Index

= Financial Need

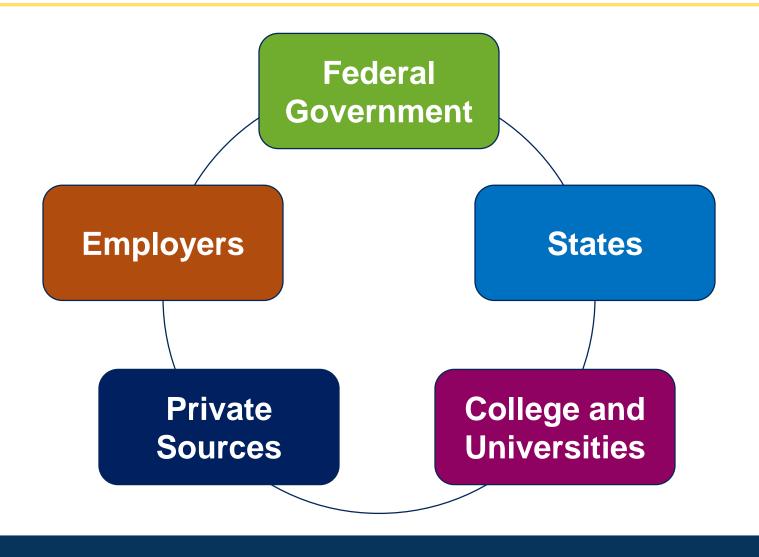


#### **Types of Financial Aid**

**Scholarships** Gift Aid-Does not have to be paid back Grants Loans Self-Help Aid-Loans Do have to be paid back. Employment does not come off tuition bill **Employment** 



#### **Sources of Financial Aid**





#### Federal Student Aid Programs

- Federal Pell Grant
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Federal Work-Study (FWS)
- Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loans)
- Federal PLUS Loans



# New York State (www.hesc.ny.gov)

- <u>Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)/Aid for Part Time Studies</u>
  (APTS)
- Residency requirements apply
- Award aid on the basis of both merit and need
- Uses information from the FAFSA to determine the award



# New York State (www.hesc.ny.gov)

#### **Excelsior Scholarship**

- Combined Federal AGI of \$125,000 or less, as reported on 2022 Federal Tax Return
- Application Deadline usually July/August 2024 for Fall 2024
- 30 Credit Requirement in One Year
- Have to live in New York after completing degree



#### **Private Sources**

- Foundations, businesses, charitable/civic organizations, churches, high school, web searches
- Deadlines and application procedures vary widely
- Begin researching private aid sources early
- Colleges and Universities- based on merit and financial need. May require institutional application



#### Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Information used to calculate the <u>Student Aid Index(SAI)</u>
  - Measure of 2022 taxable and untaxable income and current assets of both student and parent
  - Also based on family size and other demographic info such as marital status
- Colleges use the <u>SAI</u> to determine financial aid eligibility
  - For the 2024-2025 academic year, the FAFSA may be completed beginning

#### **December 2023 (No Date as of September 2023)**

- Re-apply every year
- The earlier you file, the earlier you may receive your aid offer and the more aid you may be offered
- Most colleges set <u>FAFSA filing priority dates</u>
- Admissions process vs. Financial Aid process



#### Changes to FAFSA for 2024-2025

- The number of questions on the FAFSA has decreased from over 100 to less than 50.
- The EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) is now the Student Aid Index (SAI).
- Students can list up to 20 schools on their FAFSA via the online application.
- Applicants will be asked to report their sex, race, and ethnicity on the FAFSA itself, but students will be offered a choice of "Prefer Not to Answer". Schools and states won't see responses to these questions on the FAFSA.
- The Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) has been renamed the Federal Taxpayer Information (FTI)



#### Changes to FAFSA for 2024-2025

- The Custodial Parent on your FAFSA will be the parent who provides you with the most financial support and will no longer be the parent with who you lived with the most over the past 12 months
- Students, spouses, parents, and stepparents will now need to provide their consent in the new *Consent to Retrieve and Disclose Federal Tax Information* section of the FAFSA for federal student aid eligibility.
  - This consent will allow the IRS to share FTI.
  - If any party to the FAFSA form does not provide consent, submission of the form will still be allowed. However, a Student Aid Index (SAI) will not be calculated.

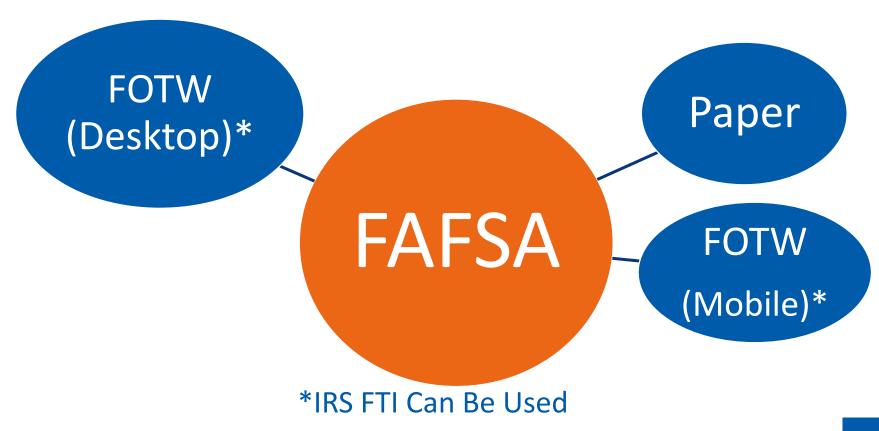


# Changes to Calculating Your Aid Eligibility 2024-2025

- Students and families will see a different measure of their ability to pay for college, and they will experience a change in the methodology used to determine aid.
- The new need analysis formula:
  - removes the number of family members in college from the calculation
  - allows a minimum SAI of -\$1,500
  - implements separate eligibility determination criteria for Federal Pell Grant.
- Child support received will be included in assets and not as untaxed income.
- Families who own a small business/farm that also serves as primary residence will now have assets of that business/farm considered in their need analysis calculation.



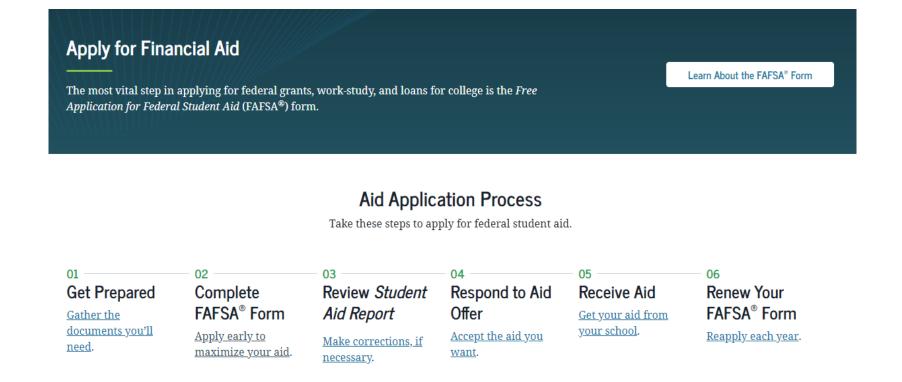
# MULTIPLE WAYS TO COMPLETE FAFSA





#### **FAFSA**

#### https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid





# FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

- Built-in edits to prevent costly errors
- Skip-logic allows student and/or parent to skip unnecessary questions
- Option to use Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Federal Taxpayer Information tool (FTI) to import tax data
- More timely submission process
- Detailed instructions



#### **FSAID**

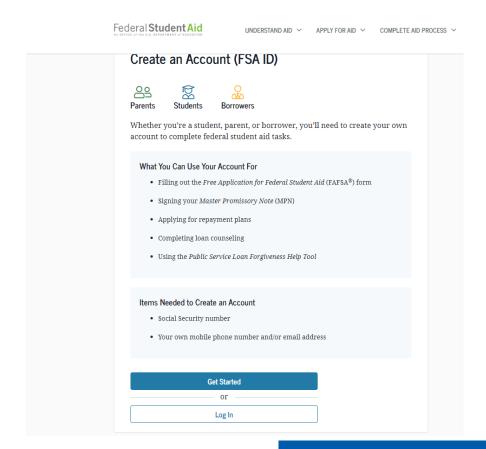
https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/

- The FSA ID is the <u>electronic signature</u> for the FAFSA
- Used by students and parents throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
  - FAFSA Corrections
  - FAFSA Renewal
  - Student Loan Promissory Note Signatures
- Only the owner should create an FSA ID
- Each student must have their own FSA ID
- One parent must have their own FSA ID



#### **FSAID**

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Email address
  - Not High School Email
  - May only use an email one time
- Mobile Phone Number
  - May only use a mobile number one time





#### **General Student Information**

- Social Security Number
- Citizenship status
- Legal Residence



#### **Information About Student**

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits
- Assets
- Untaxed income



# Information About Parents of Dependent Students

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits
- Assets
- Untaxed income
- Marital Status



#### WHO is the Parent for the FAFSA?

- Biological or Adoptive Parent(s)
  - If not married BUT living together report <u>BOTH</u> parents
- If parents are divorced:
  - Provide information for the parent who provided you the most financial support <u>during the last 12 months</u>
- Include Step-parent information
  - Regardless of any 'agreements'



#### Net worth of investments (As of 'today')

- Cash, Savings, and Checking
- Investments/Business/Farm Value
  - Current/market value minus debt = Net Worth
  - Real estate (not home you live in), trust funds, money market and mutual funds, CD's, stocks, bonds,
    commodities
  - Families who own a small business/farm that also serves as primary residence will now have assets of that business/farm considered in their need analysis calculation.
  - Child support received.
  - Education benefits/savings accounts (Coverdell, 529, refund value of prepaid tuition plans)
    - · Asset of the parent not student
    - <u>Must</u> include value of <u>ALL</u> accounts owned by parent



#### Assets NOT included on the FAFSA

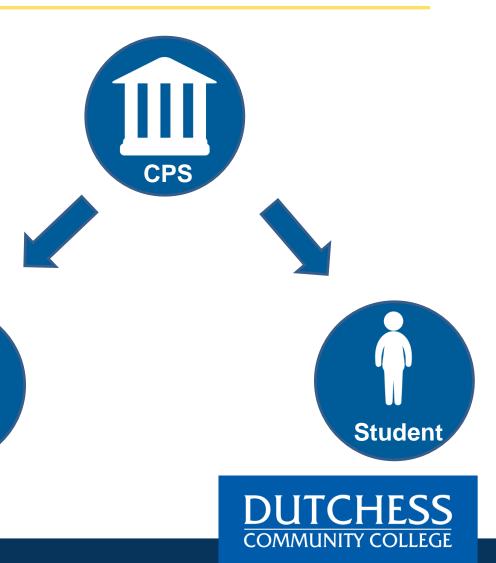
- Value of your primary residence
- Value of Life Insurance
- Traditional Retirement Plans
- Cash, Savings, Checking already reported



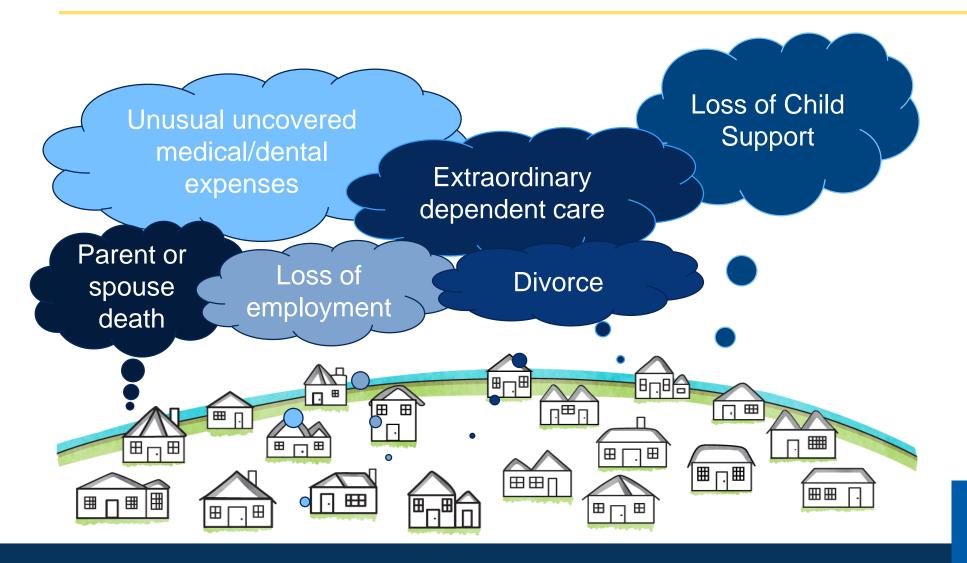
# **FAFSA Processing Results**

College

 FAFSA Results sent to colleges listed on FAFSA approximately 10 to 14 days after FAFSA is submitted



#### **Special Circumstances**





#### **Special Circumstances**

- Conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA
- Send written explanation and documentation to your college's financial aid office
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



#### Financial Aid Office reviews FAFSA

#### May request additional information

- Verification of Income
- Household size/Number in college

#### Determines Financial Aid Award Offer

- Usually emailed
- Amount of Aid awarded from each program
- How and When aid is disbursed
- Terms and Conditions of student's award

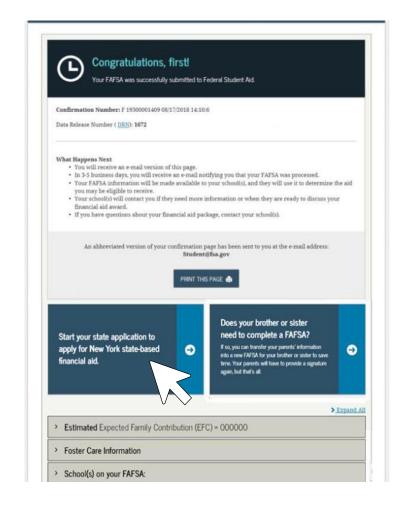


#### College Communications with the student

- Most colleges/universities use a <u>school portal</u>; an online resource that students can access to register for classes, view financial aid and billing.
- Most colleges/universities use a <u>school assigned email</u> account that students are required to activate and check regularly. Schools will begin to communicate with the student primarily through this email account.
- Once a student enrolls in college, their college record (academics and finances) become protected under FERPA and students would need to give parent/guardian permission to access this information if they choose.



# **FAFSA Confirmation Page Link**





#### NYS Student Aid Payment Application

Welcome to the New York State Student Aid Payment Application! This online application process allows you to apply for New York State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), as well as request a payment for a scholarship for which you have already been selected.

You must submit a FAFSA application to receive payment for TAP. If you have not submitted a FAFSA, go to https://fafsa.gov

A HESCPin account is required to apply. If you currently do not have one you will be able to create one.



Important: Due to the COVID-19 virus public health emergency, the processing of applications may be delayed while we work to resume normal operations.

TAP may be unavailable every Sunday from 1:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Terms and Conditions Privacy Policy Accessibility Policy Browser Requirements



# Creating a HESC Account: Outline



#### **HESCPIN Authentication System - Create an Account**

#### **Outline**

You must have a HESCPIN account to continue with NYS Student Aid Payment Application.

HESCPIN is New York State Higher Education Services Corporation's authentication system. It is used to enter secure HESC Internet services. When you set up a HESCPIN account, you will create a User ID and a Personal Identification Number (PIN). Your User ID and PIN will be used to sign in to the HESCPIN system and visit secure HESC Internet services.

The following Web pages will walk you through the steps to create a HESCPIN account. Click the "Next" button to start. Click the "Exit" button to leave.

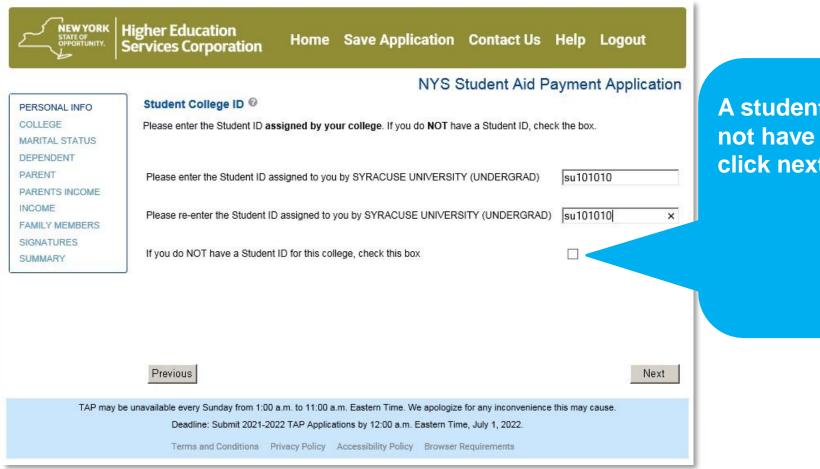
#### Steps:

- 1. Accept Terms and Conditions
- 2. Check Your Identity
- 3. Enter Account Information
- 4. Enter Secondary Contact Information (Optional)
- 5. Create a User ID
- 6. Create a PIN





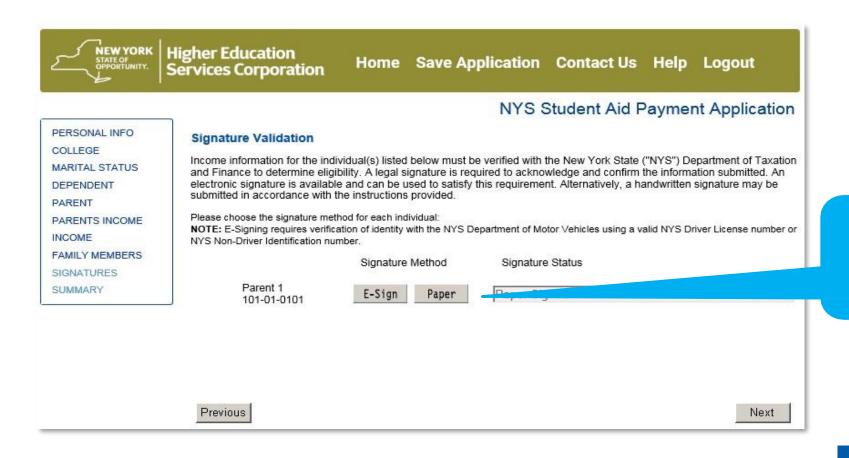
# Student's College ID Number



A student who does not have a college id click next twice



# Signature Validation (Parent Signature)

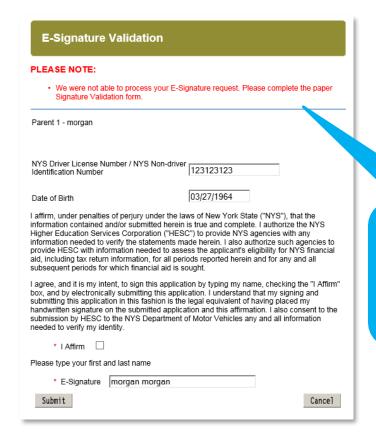


Choose E-Sign or paper signature



#### E-Signature: NYS DMV-issued ID

E-Signature	Validation	
Parent 1 - DMVTEST		
NYS Driver License Number / NYS Non-driver Identification Number		185263105
Date of Birth		09/11/1968
provide HESC with infe aid, including tax return	ormation needed to asse	de herein. I also authorize such agencies to ss the applicant's eligibility for NYS financial ods reported herein and for any and all ought.
box, and by electronics submitting this applica handwritten signature	ally submitting this application in this fashion is the on the submitted applicate the NYS Department of	on by typing my name, checking the "I Affirm" ation. I understand that my signing and legal equivalent of having placed my tion and this affirmation. I also consent to the of Motor Vehicles any and all information
* I Affirm		
Please type your first a	and last name	
* E-Signature	DMVTEST	
Submit		Cancel



If e-signature does not work, then choose the paper signature option



#### **Points to Remember**

- Grades do count for financial aid
  - Talk to financial aid offices if dropping or failing classes
- Financial aid and state requirements may vary with institutions



#### **Thank You**

#### **Contact Information**

Office of Student Financial Services

**Dutchess Community College** 

53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie NY 12601

845-431-8060

Financialservices@sunydutchess.edu

Phone Appointment: <a href="https://www.sunydutchess.edu/appointment">www.sunydutchess.edu/appointment</a>

