



The 2018-19 FAFSA Launches October 1

Completing the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)** is the first step toward receiving federal aid for college, career school, or graduate school. The U.S. Department of Higher Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) provides more than \$120 billion in grants, work-study funds, and loans each year, but students must complete the FAFSA to determine how much of that money they are eligible to receive. In this *Homeroom* **blog post** an FSA employee (and parent of a rising college student) shares simple steps to start the financial aid process:

FEATURED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunities for Involvement

[Input Sought for Technical Assistance Series for Youth Practitioners](#)

[Public Comment on Two IES Research Goals](#)

Reports

[Understanding Adolescent Inhalant Use](#)

[Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in U.S. Public Schools: Findings From the School Survey on Crime and Safety: 2015-16](#)

[SEVIS by the Numbers](#)

[Summary of School Safety Statistics](#)

[America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2017](#)

Resources

1. Research and compare college **costs**
2. Get your FSA **ID**
3. Fill out the **FAFSA**
4. Review your child's **SAR** (Student Aid Report)
5. Research **scholarships**



Find more details about each of these steps on the blog, and pay attention to the FAFSA's opening date (**October 1, 2017**) and deadlines (**varying by state**). *Now* is the time to start preparing!

TODAY ON YOUTH.GOV

YOUTH TOPIC:
Financial Capability & Literacy –
Financing Higher Education

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Youth-Led Health Center Assessment Tool

Pediatric Medical Traumatic Stress Toolkit for Health Care Providers

Updates to OAH Bullying Content

Updates to Statistical Briefing Book on Homicide Data

5 Ways Juvenile Court Judges Can Use Data

Mentoring as a Component of Reentry

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CHANGE MAKER: Pablo – Advocating for Access to Higher Education



Find additional opportunities and resources for youth on the **Youth Engaged 4 Change (YE4C) website** and **Facebook page**.

DID YOU KNOW?



Nearly 70% of graduating seniors from public and private nonprofit colleges in 2013 had federal student loan debt that averaged \$28,400. The U.S. Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) issued a report, ***Opportunities to Improve the Financial Capability and Financial Well-being of Postsecondary Students***, which describes key financial decisions facing college students. **Download the report (PDF, 48 pages)**.

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