# Financial Aid 101 2017 – 2018





# Agenda

- GAfutures.org
- Basic Information
- Federal Programs
- State Programs
- Filling out the FAFSA
- Additional Resources



# **GAfutures.org**

- Georgia's primary resource to help students plan, apply and find affordable ways to pay for college
- GAfutures supports
  GSFC's mission to
  increase access to
  education beyond
  high school for Georgia
  students



AWARD RECIPIENTS: THEIR STORIES

**NEWS YOU CAN USE** 

# **GAfutures.org**

#### Financial Aid Information

 The basics, state and federal programs, calculators, repayment options, financial literacy tips, national scholarship search

### College Planning Tools

 Timeline, test prep, College Money Matters, calculators, applications (admissions, financial aid), HOPE-eligible institutions highlighted, national college search

### Career Exploration

 Career assessments, interest profiler, Career Clusters and Pathways, skilled trades

### My GAfutures for Students

Request high school transcripts, check HOPE GPA

# Basic Information

### What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid is money to pay for your postsecondary education

- Examples of financial aid
  - Grants
  - Scholarships
  - Loans
  - Work-Study Programs



### **Sources of Financial Aid**

Professional and Service Organizations

Employers and Private Companies Federal Government



Private Foundations State Government

Colleges and Universities



# **Types of Financial Aid**

- Merit-Based Scholarship(HOPE and Zell Miller)
- Need-Based Grant (Pell)
- Non-Need Based Grants (HOPE and Zell Miller)
- Student or Parent Loans
- Employment Opportunities, Work Study
- Military Aid and Grants
- Savings Plans (Path2College)

### Who Can Get Federal Student Aid?

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- High school graduate or GED recipient
- Eligible certificate/diploma/degree program
- Valid Social Security number
- Males registered for Selective Service
- Satisfactory Academic Progress

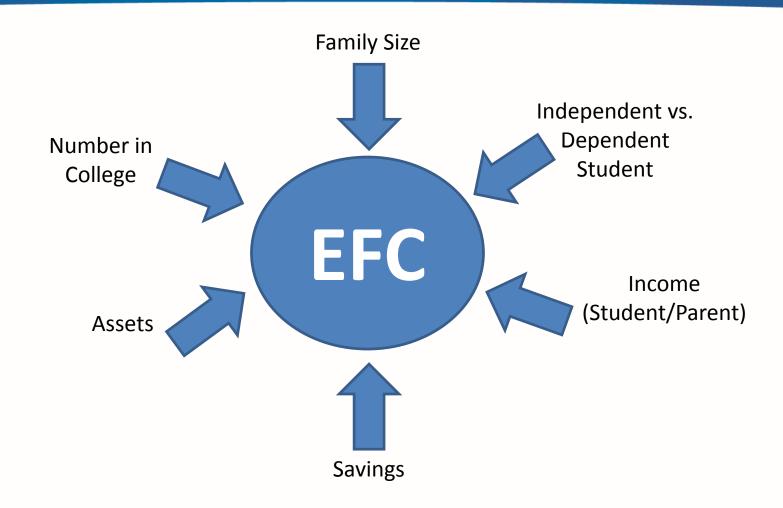


### **How is Financial Need Calculated?**

- Financial need is determined by Cost of Attendance (COA) and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- COA is tuition, fees, room and board, transportation, etc. established by the school
- EFC comes from what you report on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



### **Factors that Influence EFC**



# Factors that **Do Not** Influence EFC

- Assets that are EXCLUDED from the FEDERAL family contribution calculation (EFC)
  - Family home
  - Family farm (under special circumstances)
  - Value of retirement accounts (IRA, KEOUGH, 401K)



# Federal Programs

# What are the Federal Programs?

- Pell Grant
  - Maximum award amount for 2017-2018: \$5,920
  - Based on financial need, COA, full-time or part-time status and plans to attend school for a full academic year or less
  - There is a maximum EFC to qualify for Pell
  - May not receive Pell Grant funds for more than one school at a time
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
  - Full-time, undergraduates only
  - Awards range from \$100 \$4,000
- Federal Work-Study Grant

# What are the Federal Programs?

- Direct Subsidized Loan
  - Interest is paid by the government while enrolled (at least half-time)
- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
  - Student is responsible for paying the interest on the loan
- Federal PLUS Loan for parents of undergraduate students
- Grad PLUS Loan for graduate and professional students

# **2017 – 2018 Interest Rates**

### **Direct and PLUS Loans**

Type of Loan	Interest Rates
Direct Subsidized Loans (Undergraduates)	4.45%
<b>Direct Unsubsidized Loans</b> (Undergraduates)	4.45%
Direct Unsubsidized Loans (Graduate or Professional Students)	6%
Direct PLUS Loans (Parents and Graduate or Professional Students)	7%

# **Federal Loan Program Limits**

### 2017-2018 Academic Year

Initial Loan Amount for Dependent Students whose Parents are Eligible for a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

Independent Students and Dependent Students whose Parents were Denied a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500

# State Programs

# What are Some State Programs?

- Academic or Merit Scholarships
  - HOPE Scholarship
  - Zell Miller Scholarship
- Grants
  - HOPE Grant
  - Zell Miller Grant
  - HOPE Career Grant
  - HOPE GED Grant
- Loan
  - Student Access Loan (SAL)



# **Other State Programs**

- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan
- HERO Scholarship
- Public Safety Memorial Grant
- REACH Scholarship
- Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE)
- Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities (MSEE)
- Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)
- University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers

# How do I Apply for Aid?

- Federal aid: FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov
- State aid: most states make awards based on FAFSA data
  - GSFAPPS is a Georgia-specific financial aid application available on GAfutures.org
- School aid: contact school's financial aid office
- Scholarships: each scholarship provider has its own requirements

### **GSFAPPS**



Explore. Plan. Succeed.



#### **GSFAPPS**

Apply On Line Now

GSFAPPS Fact Sheet

**GSFAPPS FAQ's** 

GSFAPPS Tutorial

GSFAPPS Presentation

New Application Deadlines

Ask a Question

WELCOME to the GSFAPPS - the primary means for applying for most scholarships, grants, or service-cancelable loan programs administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). GSFAPPS has been carefully designed to permit an applicant to quickly and accurately complete an application electronically, in a secure mode, and to receive immediate confirmation that the application has been received by GSFC for further processing. An applicant can also print out a copy of the application they submitted for their records. The instructions are easy to follow, and the System provides help menus throughout to guide completion of the application.

OPTIONS. If you decide not to apply electronically, you can download and print a paper application from GAfutures web site, call the Commission at 800-505-GSFC, or visit your Financial Aid Office. Remember, submitting your application online via GSFAPS ensures your application has been completed correctly, and, assuming you meet the eligibility requirements, speeds up the approval process. If you are visually impaired, you can call the Commission at 800-505-GSFC to get assistance in completing your application.

CONDITIONS. You must have already established an account and completed your profile in GAfutures and be logged onto that website. If you need to establish an account and complete your profile in GAfutures, <u>click here</u> and click Create an Account.

INSTRUCTIONS: If you would like a tutorial on how to use GSFAPPS, click GSFApps Tutorial.

Click Apply Now to Apply Online.

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GSFC
Georgia Student

GSFA
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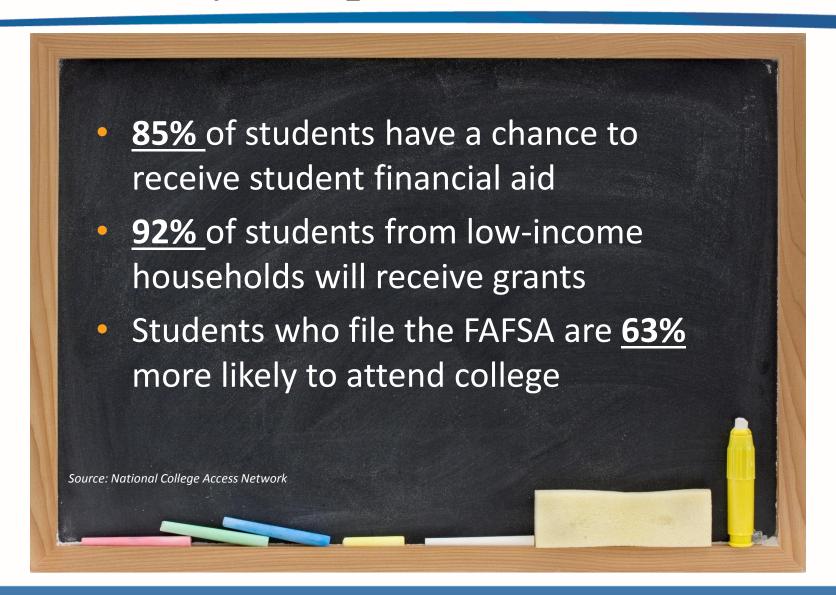
GHEAC

Georgia Higher Education



# Filling Out the FAFSA FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

# Why Complete the FAFSA?



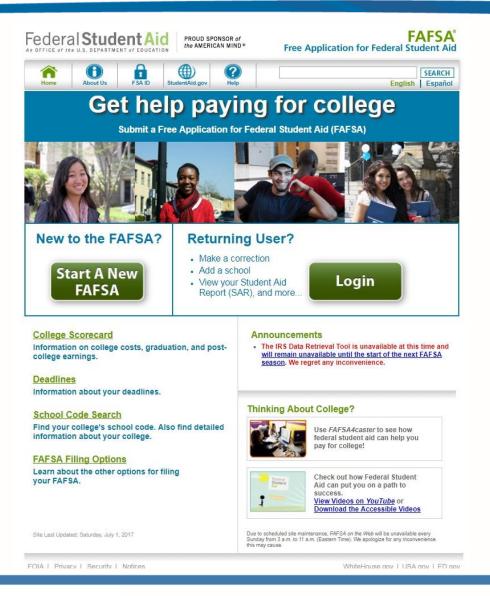
# Why Complete the FAFSA?

- Qualifies students for low-interest and forgivable federal student loans
- 30 minutes is usually all you need to complete
- \$24 billion in federal aid left on the table each year
- It's FREE!



Source: National College Access Network

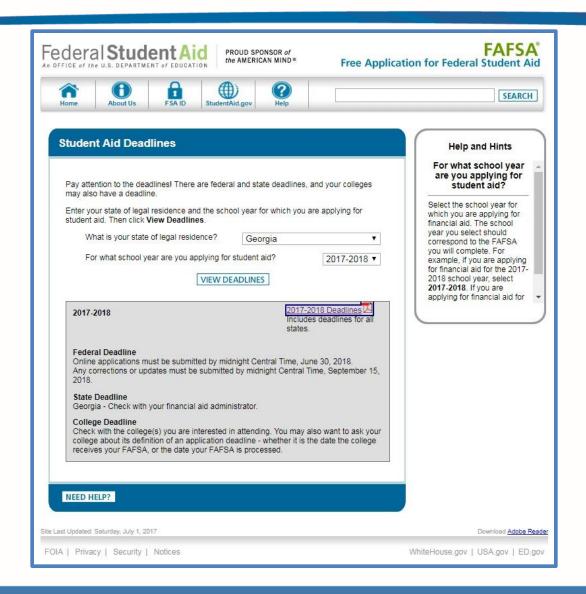
# FAFSA Homepage: FAFSA.gov



# When to File the FAFSA

When a Student Plans to Attend College	You will Submit this FAFSA	You can Submit the FAFSA From	Using Income and Tax Information From
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	2017-18	October 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	2018-19	October 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019	2016
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020	2019-20	October 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020	2017

### **FAFSA Deadlines**



# What You Need to Complete the FAFSA

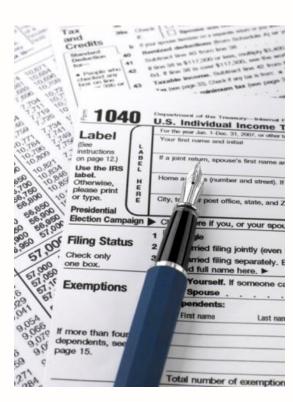
Social Security number (Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen)

Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of

money earned

 Bank statements and investment records (if applicable)

- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically
- Order Spanish FAFSA at edpubs.gov

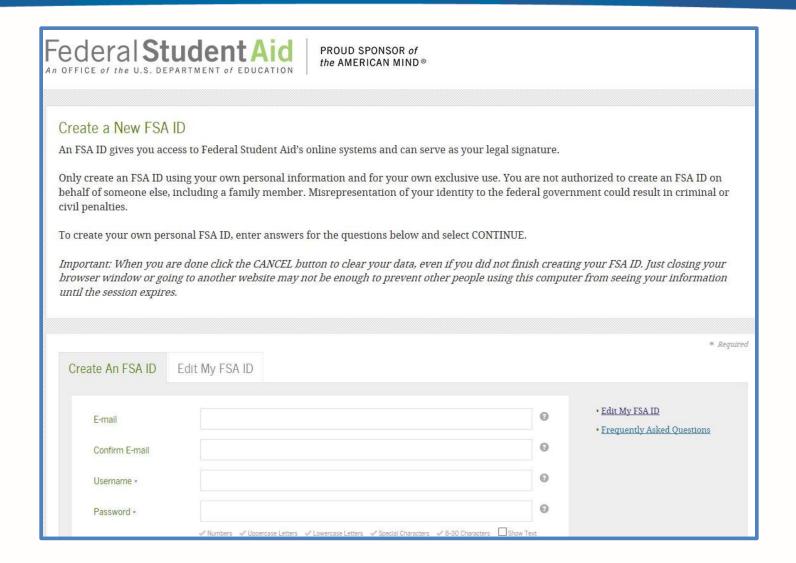


### The FSA ID

- Consists of user-created username and password
- Provides electronic access to personal information
- FSA ID can be used immediately upon creation to complete, sign and submit your FAFSA
- Parents and students must apply for their own FSA ID

Note: The user will only receive immediate full benefit of the FSA ID if the student is linking an already established PIN. If not, the student can only use the FSA ID to sign their FAFSA until their FSA ID has been validated by the Social Security Administration.

# **Create Your FSA ID**



# **FSA ID Tips**

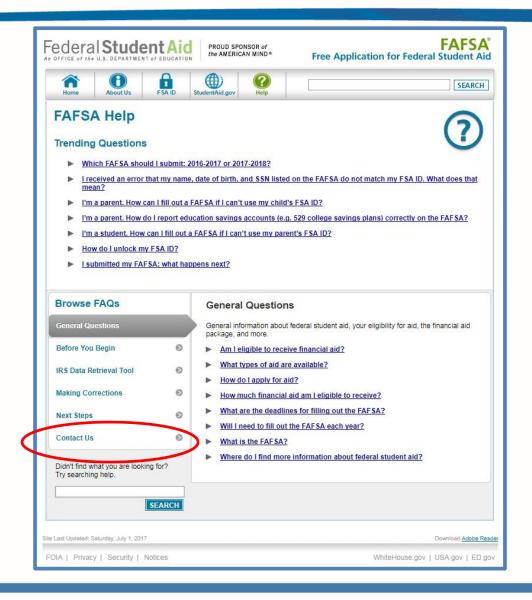
- Create your own FSA ID
- Never tell anyone else your FSA ID
- Use your FSA ID each year you fill out the FAFSA and the lifetime of any loans
- Parents may need an FSA ID as well
- Each email address can be associated with only one

FSA ID

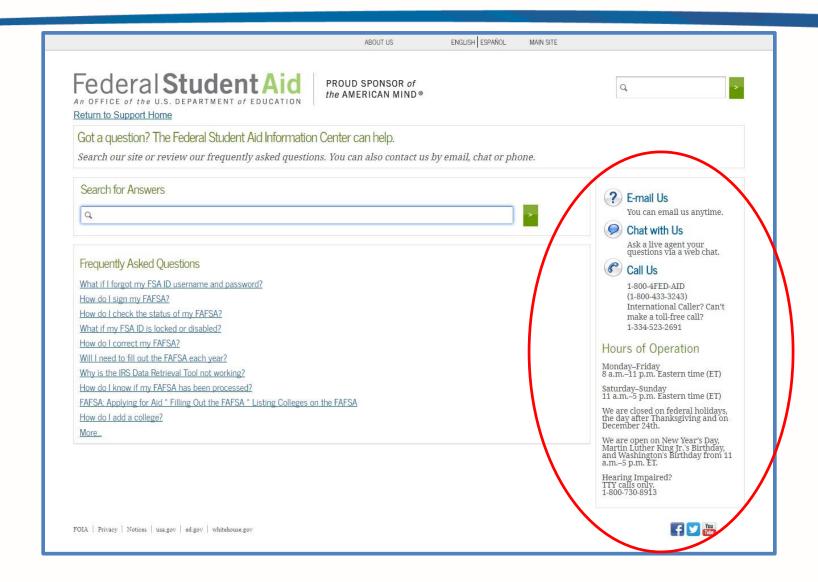
FSA ID



# Find the Answers on FAFSA.gov



### **FSA Information Center**



# FAFSA on the Web Worksheet

CECTIONIS	CTUDENT	DEDENIDENC	VCTATILC
SECTION 2	- 21 ODENI	DEPENDENC	YSIAIUS

If you can check ANY of the following boxes, you will not have to provide parental information. Skip to page 4. If you check NONE of the following boxes, you will be asked to provide parental information. Go to the next page.

☐ I was born before January 1, 1993	☐ I am married	☐ I will be working on a master's or doctorate program (e.g., MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate)	
☐ I am serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces	☐ I am a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces	☐ I now have or will have children for whom I will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017	
☐ Since I turned age 13, both of my parents were deceased	☐ I was in foster care since turning age 13	☐ I have dependents (other than children or my spouse) who live with me and I provide more than half of their support	
☐ I was a dependent or ward of the court since turning age 13	☐ I am currently or I was an emancipated minor	☐ I am currently or I was in legal guardianship	☐ I am homeless or I am at risk of being homeless

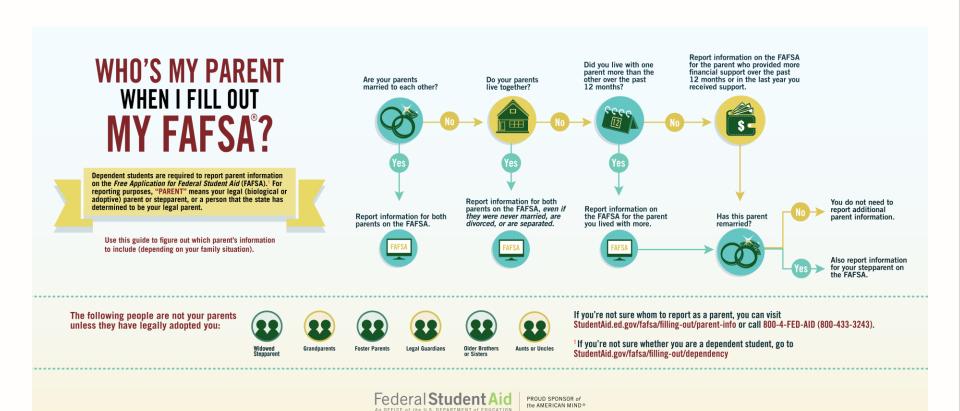
The information provided in Section 2 will determine whether the student is a dependent or independent student. These are the only questions the Government uses in making this determination.

## FAFSA on the Web Worksheet

SECTION 3 - PARENT INFORMATION							
Who is considered a parent? "Parent" refers to example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate, considered parents on this form unless they have legal questions about both of them. If your legal parents are or separation, give information about the parent you ligive information about the parent who provided you treceived support. If your divorced or widowed parent in the provided you treceived support. If your divorced or widowed parent in the provided your divorced or widowed parent in the parent who provided you treceived support.	Grandpar lly adopte e not marr ived with r he most fi	ents, foster d you. If yo lied and <b>liv</b> most in the nancial su	parents, legal guard ur legal parents are l e together, answer t last 12 months. If yo port during the last	lians, old iving and the quest ou did not 12 mont	er siblings, I married to tions about t live with o hs or durin	and uncles or aunts be each other, answer both of them. In ca one parent more tha g the most recent ye	are <b>not</b> the se of divorce n the other,
Providing parent 1 information? You will need:			Providing parent 2 information? You will need:				l:
Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number			Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number				
Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) name			Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) name				
Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth			Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth				
☐ Check here if parent 1 is a dislocated worker			☐ Check here if parent 2 is a dislocated worker				
Did you know?		Did you	ır parents file oı	will th	ey file a	2015 income ta	x return?
If your parents file a tax return with the IRS, they may be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, which is the easiest			My parents have alre	eady com	pleted a ta	x return	
way to provide accurate tax information. With just a fe			☐ My parents will file, but have not yet completed a tax return				
simple steps, they may be able to view their tax return			My parents are not g				
information and securely transfer it into FAFSA on the	Web.		my parents are not g	joing to i	ne an incon	ne tax return	
What was your parents' adjusted gross inc						-	
Skip this question if your parents did not file taxes. Ad	justed gro	ss income	is on IRS Form 1040—Line 37;			\$	
1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.							
The following questions ask about earnings (wag filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms, (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1.							
How much did parent 1 (father/mother/st	ennarer	nt) earn f	rom working in	2015?		\$	
How much did parent 2 (father/mother/st	epparer	it) earn i	rom working in	2015?		\$	
In 2014 or 2015, did anyone in your paren	ts' hous	ehold re	ceive: (Check all	that app	oly.)		
☐ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)			sistance for Needy Fa		The state of the s		
☐ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)						nfants, and Children	(WIC)
☐ Free or Reduced Price School Lunch							
Note: TANF may have a different name in your parents	state. Cal	1-800-4-F	ED-AID to find out th	ne name	of the state	's program.	
Did your parents have any of the following Check all that apply. Once online, you may be				receive	ed by you	ır parents.	
Additional Financial Information	Untax	ed Incon	ne				
American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit Child support paid Taxable carnings from work-study, assistantships or fellowships Taxable college grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS Cooperative education program earnings	Paym retire Child IRA d emp	nents to tax ement savi I support re leductions loyed SEP, xempt inte xed portio	-deferred pension ar ngs plans	f- C	paid to r and othe Veterans Other un	noneducation bene taxed income not re ers' compensation or	efits eported, such
Your parents may be asked to provide mo Your parents may need to report the net v					or investr	ment farms.	
NOTES:							
MANAY EA ES A GOV				2016	2017 EAEC	A ON THE WER WOR	VCHEET DAY



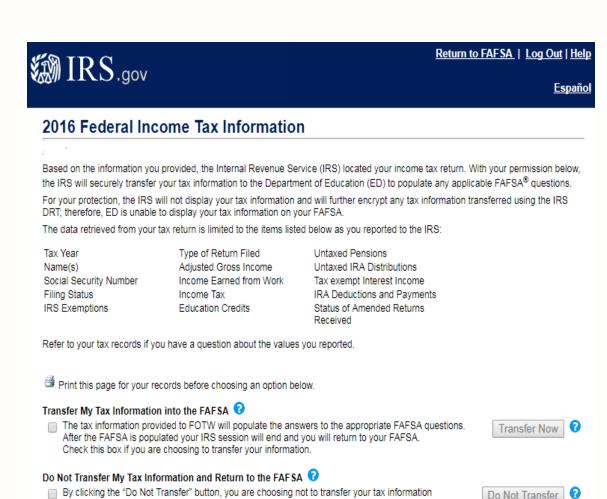
# Who's My Parent?





### **IRS Data Retrieval**

- Applicant will be validated
- Applicant will have the option to "Transfer" the tax information to the FAFSA



electronically. Your IRS session will end and you will return to your FAFSA.

# **Special Circumstances**

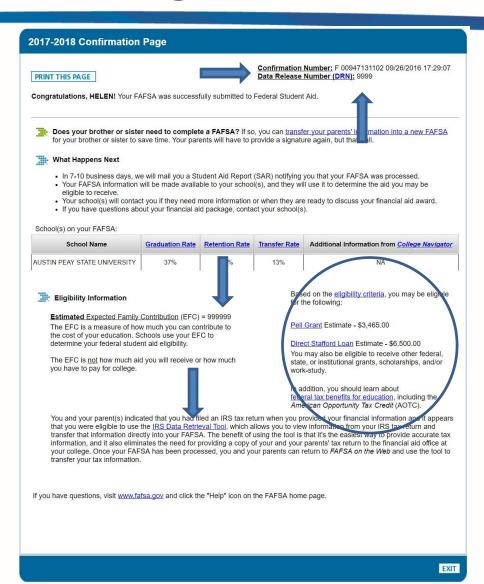
- Cannot report on FAFSA
- Send explanation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review special circumstances:
  - Request additional documentation
  - Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S.
     Department of Education

### **Examples of Special Circumstances:**

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
  - Change in parent marital status
  - Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information

# **Confirmation Page**

- Confirmation Number
- Data Release Number (DRN)
- EFC estimate
- Pell Grant and Direct Loan estimates
- Option for parents to transfer information to an application for a sibling



# **FAFSA Processing Results**

- Student will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Colleges listed on your FAFSA will receive the Institutional Student Record (ISIR) 10 to 14 days after FAFSA submitted
- College reviews ISIR
  - May request additional documentation, such as copies of federal tax returns



Form Approved OMB No. 1845-0001 App. Exp. 12/31/2016

### 2015-201

Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Application Receipt Date:	01/09/2015	XXX-XX-5678	
Processed Date:	01/10/2015	EFC: 001056	
		DRN: 1234	

### Comments About Your Information

Learn about federal tax benefits for education, including the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC).

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 001056. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid.
Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work-study, and possible funding from your state and school.

There is a limit to the total amount of Federal Pell Grants that a student may receive, which is the equivalent of 6 school years. Once a total amount of Pell Grant eligibility has been received, a student can no longer receive Pell Grant aid.

WHAT YOU MUST DO NOW (Use the checklist below to make sure that all of your issues are resolved.)

If you need to make corrections to your information, click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page. You must use your Federal Student Aid PIN to access your record online. If you need additional help with your SAR, contact your school's financial aid office or click the 'Help' icon on the FAFSA home page. If your mailing address or e-mail address shanges, you can make the correction online.

You were issued a Federal Student Aid PIN to sign your 2015-2016 FAFSA. Your information has been verified and your PIN has been confirmed. Do not share your PIN with anyone. Remember that your PIN stays the same from year to year and that you can use your PIN to make corrections, add school codes, view your federal student loan history, and electronically sign your Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note. For more information on the PIN, visit www.pin.ed.gov.

Your parent was issued a Federal Student Aid PIN to sign your 2015-2016 FAFSA. Your parent's information has been verified and the PIN has been confirmed. Your parent should not share the PIN with anyone. The PIN stays the same from year to year and can be used to make corrections, add school codes, and view your federal student loan history. For more information on the PIN, your parent can visit www.pin.ed.gov.

Based on your EFC of 001056, you may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$4,120 for the 2015-2016 school year provided you have not met or exceeded the lifetime limit established for the Federal Pell Grant program.

### Financial Aid Award Offer

Name: Doe, John

000 00 0128 ID:

Award #: 01

May 21, 2018

Housing: **On-Campus** Residency: In-State

Estimated Cost of Attendance 2 Semesters

\$18,620

**Expected Family Contribution** 

**Established Financial Need** 

\$18,620

Type of Aid	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total	Accept?
Federal Pell Grant	\$2,960	\$2,960	\$0	\$5,920	Yes or No
HOPE Scholarship*	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$0	\$7,200	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan – Sub	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0	\$3,500	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan - Unsub	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No
Total for Academic Year				\$18,620	

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated HOPE Scholarship award amount for 15 credit hours per semester at Georgia State University for the 2017 – 2018 academic school year. Award amounts vary by institution. Complete award amounts can be found on GAfutures.org.



# Additional Resources

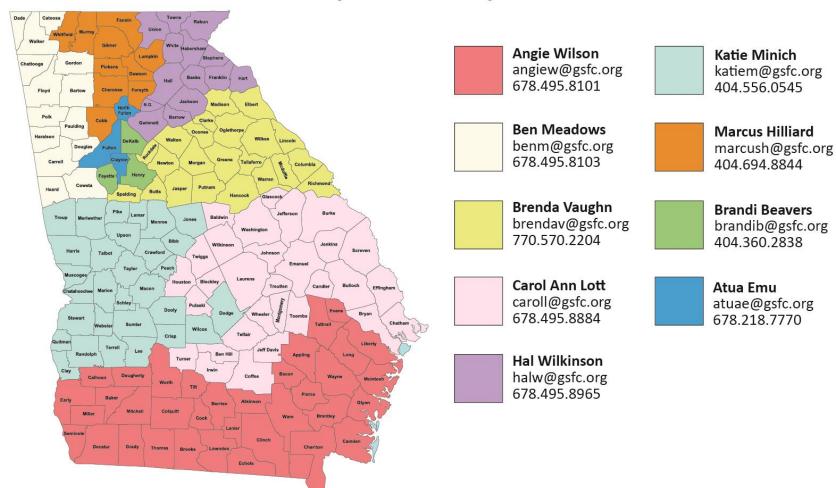
### **Additional Resources**

- GAfutures.org
- Georgia's College Connector
- GSFC.org
- FAFSA.gov
- StudentAid.gov
  - Prepare for College
  - Types of Aid
  - Who Gets Aid
  - Apply for Aid
  - Repay Your Loans



# We're Here to Help You

### **Contact your GSFC Representative**



### **Contact Us**





## **Be Social**







### **OUR MISSION**

To promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians.

### **OUR VISION**

To be the premier provider of student financial aid and educational services for Georgians.