**Information for the FAFSA**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the most important application in order to qualify for financial aid such as federal, state, local and private grants and scholarships.

WEBSITE: [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

When to file the FAFSA:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| If you plan to attend college from: | Submit the FAFSA from: | Using tax information from: |
| July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 | October 1, 2021- June 30, 2023 | 2020 |
| July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024 | October 1, 2022- June 30, 2024 | 2021 |
| July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025 | October 1, 2023- June 30, 2025 | 2022 |

\*Aid is limited and given on a first come, first serve bases. It is important to apply early.\*

The FSA ID:

The FSA ID is a username and password that you will use to log into the Department of Education website and electronically sign the FAFSA. You and any parent electronically signing the FAFSA will need their own separate FSA ID. If your parent previously filled out the FAFSA for another sibling, you would need their same FSA ID for your application.

\*Remember that your VHS e-mail address will no longer be valid after graduation. Please create a professional e-mail address that can be linked to all your FAFSA and college information. Gmail, Outlook, and Yahoo all offer e-mail services.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Username: | Student Password: | Student Save Key: | Student E-mail: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Parent Username: | Parent Password: | Parent Save Key: | Parent E-mail: |
|  |  |  |  |

Parental Information:

You will need to determine which parent (if any) to include on your FAFSA application. Use this tool to help you to identify who you are going to include on your FAFSA and complete the fields below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| This parent/guardian has custodial rights over me, or I live with them the majority of the time: | DEPENDENT | Parent/ Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_If they are married, you must include their spouse as well.Parent/Guardian 2 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| I fall into one of these categories:I have been in foster care/ ward of the court.I have a child I provide financial support to.I have experienced homelessness. | INDEPENDENT | You are considered an independent student for the purpose of Financial Aid.  |

Complete this chart for the individuals you named above, and yourself:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yourself | Father/ Stepfather: | Mother/ Stepmother: |
| Date of Birth: |  |  |  |
| Social Security #: |  |  |  |
| Did you file taxes in 2020? |  |  |  |
| If you did not file- how much did you earn from working in 2020? |  |  |  |
| Month/Year of marriages/divorces: |  |  |  |
| Month/Year you began living in Louisiana: |  |  |  |
| List any benefits received (SNAP, SSI, WIC, FITAP) |  |  |  |

Tricks and Tips for Completing the FAFSA at Home:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Providing your income | The IRS retrieval tool will link the information you put on your taxes right onto the FAFA- you must list the exact same address you used when you filed.  |
| Summer Programs | If you plan to attend a summer program, pay close attention to the chart on Page 1. You will need to file TWO separate years, one for the summer and one for the fall. |
| Selected for Verification | If you were selected for verification and paperwork came home in the mail, pay careful attention to which numbers they are asking you to fill out and SEND BACK THIS DOCUMENT ASAP. |
| Registering for Selective Services | All male students must be registered for the Selective Services to have their FAFSA processed. Students will be prompted to do so if he is not already registered.  |
| Completing FAFSA for siblings | Parents can transfer their information to sibling’s FAFSA using the link on the “Confirmation” page. If the applicant leaves the confirmation page before they click this link, they will not be able to return to transfer data to the application of a sibling. |

FSAIC

The Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) operates a toll-free hotline to provide comprehensive assistance in English, as well as Spanish on:

* General information about federal student aid
* The FAFSA application
* FAFSA corrections
* Student loan history

**1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)**

Hours: Monday through Friday

 8:00 am- 11:00 pm ET

 \*Extended hours may be available\*