

## I've Applied...What's Next?

Congratulations! You have taken the very important first step to going to college – you've applied! Once you have submitted your online application, colleges should be in touch with you to inform you of the status of your application. **Make sure to check your email.** If you have not been contacted by the school within four weeks of your submission, contact the admissions office to ask about your application status.

### **Don't forget your confirmation page**

If you applied online, do not leave the computer lab without a **physical printout of your confirmation page** for your records.

### **Follow Up**

Even though you've already filled out the online portion, there is still more to do to finish your application. You need to submit:

- High school transcripts—must be official (signed and with a school seal/electronic sent from high school registrar)
- You will also need to **send your official final transcript** after you graduate from high school
- Your application fee (if you chose the pay later option)
- College transcripts from Concurrent Enrollment (CE) courses (if required)
- ACT scores (if required)
- Letters of recommendation (if required)
- Your essay (if required)

Make sure to keep a copy of all submitted documents and confirmation page for your records. During College Application Week you registered for a **FAFSA FSA ID**, keep that information in a safe place as well, you will need it soon!

Even after you're accepted to a college, there's still a lot of work to do to make your final decision and prepare for college expenses. You'll want to consider what financial aid is available at the colleges you're considering, and you'll want to decide if you want to live on campus or commute. Of course, once you decide on a college, you'll need to register as a new student, attend orientation, and enroll in classes. All of this impacts the financial aid process to pay for college.

## The Next Steps for Financial Aid

### **Paying for College**

Beginning on October 1<sup>st</sup> you can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. You need to complete the FAFSA to be considered for grants, work-study funds, student loans, and some scholarships, so this is a very important step. Class of 2022 seniors should file the 2022-2023 FAFSA, which will ask about your family's 2020 tax information. If possible, you should complete the FAFSA before your college's FAFSA deadline in order to have access to the most money possible.

### **Resources for Completing the FAFSA**

Complete and submit the FAFSA as early as possible. The sooner you submit the form, the more prepared you will be to follow up with colleges about what else may be needed to receive a financial aid package.

- Speak with your family and school counselor about your financial aid options.
- You and a parent\* will need an FSA ID to complete your FAFSA from year to year, if you did not register for a FSA ID or have forgotten it, visit [studentaid.gov/fsa-id](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id).  
*\*If your [parent does not have a Social Security number](#) they will not create an FSA ID and will instead [physically sign and submit](#) the FAFSA at the end.*
- Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) partners with schools statewide to host FAFSA Completion Events. Ask your counselors about your school's FAFSA Completion Night.
- [Keys to Success](#) has a number of resources regarding paying and saving for college. You can get access to FAFSA assistance, Paying for College Guide, a full FAFSA walkthrough video, and more.

### Resources for Finding Scholarships

Scholarships are a great way to pay for college, because they do not have to be repaid. Here are a few places to search for scholarships:

- Your school counselor or scholarship coordinator
- The financial aid & scholarships webpage of the college or university you plan to attend
- [Keys to Success](#) connects students with local scholarships, internships and other opportunities
- Online scholarship search engines, such as:
  - [CollegeBoard BigFuture](#)
  - [Fastweb](#)
  - [Chegg Scholarships](#)

You may think scholarships are “free money” but that doesn't mean they are easy to get. You need to dedicate time and energy to being a good candidate and to submitting scholarship applications; **read all requirements** and instructions carefully and **adhere to all deadlines**. Don't be afraid to ask for help from counselors, teachers, friends who have also applied for scholarships, and family members!

## USHE FAFSA Completion Nights Coming to a High School Near You!

### Assistance with Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

To complete the 2022-2023 FAFSA, you will need this info:

- Yours and your parents' FSA ID ([studentaid.gov/fsa-id](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id)).
- Student's and parent(s)' Social Security card (if their parent does not have one, that is okay)
- Student's I-9 paperwork or Permanent Resident Card (if the student has one. Typically this applies to refugee or asylee students)
- Student's driver's license (if the student has one)
- Student's and parent(s)' 2020 W-2 forms and other records of taxed income\*
- Student's and parent(s)' 2020 Federal Income Tax Return\*\*
- Student's and parent(s)' current bank statements
- Student's and parent(s)' 2020 untaxed income records
- Student's and parent(s)' current business & investment, property mortgage information, business and farm, stocks, bonds, and other investment records.

### USHE Financial Aid/FAFSA Contact Info:

Phone: 801-366-8487

Email: [fafsahelp@ushe.edu](mailto:fafsahelp@ushe.edu)