



We wanted to reach out to you regarding changes to the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) beginning with the 2425 FAFSA application. FAFSA is the 'vehicle' used to communicate financial aid information to the universities financial aid department concerning TOPS, loans, or Pell grants.

As you may know, the 2425 FAFSA publication date was pushed back to December 2023. A "soft launch" of the 2425 FAFSA is available for completion. There are periods of time where the website will be down for maintenance. Please go to <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> and attempt to complete your 2425 FAFSA. You can contact their helpline for any questions pertaining to their website. Their contact number is 1-800-433-3243. They also have an email or live chat option.

Things you need to do:

- The student and contributor (a biological parent, stepparent or adoptive parent) need to create their FSA ID's. Write down this information because it can be difficult to retrieve username/password if it is forgotten.
 - The contributor might already have one; they cannot make a second one.
 - The student and contributor's social security number will be needed to create the FSA ID
 - The student and contributor will need to have their own separate email accounts
 - It will take 1-3 days for the information to be confirmed by the Social Security Administration (SSA) before the FSA ID can be used to complete the FAFSA.
- Use the student and contributors legal name on everything
- The student and contributors will need all 2022 tax documentation. There will be a link within the FAFSA that allows your IRS tax information to be uploaded. All information should be transferred from the IRS via the student and contributor's "consent" on the FAFSA. Not consenting to the IRS transfer will result in your students FAFSA being rejected. In order for this upload to be successful, the name/address that appears on your W2, tax return, and FAFSA must be the same.
- When you have finished completing FAFSA, your screen will say "Congratulations". You will receive an email This will include your estimated [Student Aid Index \(SAI\)](#) and estimated eligibility for Federal Pell Grants and Student Loans.

- The completed 2425 FAFSA application will also serve as the student's TOPS application.
- All graduating seniors must complete FAFSA, Louisiana TOPS online application, or complete a parent/legal guardian waiver. This requirement must be satisfied by March 15th.

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, <https://mylosfa.la.gov/fafsa/>, has an excellent explanation and helpful link for completing the FAFSA.

If you need additional assistance, please contact Dodi Carrier by email (dodicarrier@apcs.us) or 318-240-9991.