

AFTER COMPLETING THE FAFSA.....WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

After you submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the federal processor will send you a **Student Aid Report (SAR)**.

- If you provided a valid e-mail address on your FAFSA you will receive an e-mail, within 3 to 5 days, with instructions on how to access an online copy of your SAR. Check your junk mail for this email if it does not appear in your received e-mails.

If the e-mailed link for your SAR does not work, try this:

- Copy the full URL link from the e-mail we sent you,
- Paste it into the address or location line of your Web browser,
- Hit enter.

TIP: Make sure you copy and paste the entire link; this may appear as multiple lines in your e-mail.

If the federal processor does not have a valid e-mail address on file, your SAR will be mailed to you via postal mail within 7 to 10 days.

The colleges that you listed on your FAFSA will also receive your information electronically as soon as it is processed.

Review all information on your SAR for accuracy. Read all comments.

If your application is complete, an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) will display on your SAR. If your application is incomplete, your SAR will not include an EFC, but it will have a printed message that specifies any issues that need to be resolved. If you need help with these issues contact the financial aid office at a school that you listed on your FAFSA.

If your FAFSA is incomplete:

- Make corrections to your FAFSA by going back to the www.fafsa.gov website. Login as a returning user. Enter your PIN, and add or correct the information that caused your FAFSA to be incomplete. Submit your corrections. You should get a confirmation page displayed after you submit the new information. Print the new confirmation page for your records.

If you need to add a school:

- Add a school to your FAFSA by going back to the www.fafsa.gov website. Login as a returning user. Enter your PIN, and add the new school code and your housing arrangements for the new school. Submit your correction. You should get a confirmation page displayed after you submit the new information. Print the new confirmation page for your records.

If your FAFSA is complete:

The EFC that displays on your SAR is a calculation based on the information that you reported on your FAFSA. Your EFC is **not** the amount of money your family will have to pay for college **nor** is it the amount of federal student aid you will receive. It is a number used by your school to calculate the amount of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. Your college uses the EFC to determine the amount of federal grants, loans, and work-study for which you may be eligible.

Colleges that you have listed to receive your SAR will contact you about financial aid that you will be awarded or to request additional information that you need to send the college to complete your financial aid file. You may need to send an IRS Tax Return Transcript, W-2s and other income information. Send requested information as quickly as possible so your file is completed and an award notice can be sent to you.

- Apply for admission to the colleges that you listed on your FAFSA. Colleges will not offer financial aid to students who have not applied for admission and been accepted as a student.
- Make sure you contact your high school to request that your official high school transcript is sent to the colleges you are interested in attending.
- Check out scholarships and grants given out by the colleges that you listed on the FAFSA. Visit a college representative or web-site about deadlines or other applications that you need to complete to be considered for campus awards.
- Open all correspondence from college financial aid offices as soon as possible and respond according to deadlines. There may be a deadline to accept financial aid and if you miss it you may miss out on the financial aid offered.
- Due to privacy laws colleges are unable to speak to anyone but the student about your financial aid file. If you would like to give permission to the college to speak to a parent or other person you must contact the college to find out the process for you to give this permission.
- Contact the college you are attending to inquire about student or parent loans before you sign up for any other student or parent loans that do not go through the college. Federal Direct Loans, which are offered at most colleges, are the best option for students and parents.

CONTACT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE TO REPORT YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARDS.