



FAFSA GUIDE

WHAT IS FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used for awarding federal student aid. All students must submit the FAFSA in order to receive financial aid. The application can be completed online or by paper application at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

SHOULD EVERYONE FILE A FAFSA?

If you are even considering enrolling in Southeastern University classes while you are a student at Atlanta Leadership College, you should complete the FAFSA.

Even if your parents make a good living, you may still be able to receive some kind of federal financial aid. Also, if you are seeking scholarships, most schools require you to complete FAFSA and accept any federal aid offered through FAFSA in order to be eligible for their scholarships. By filing your FAFSA, even if you are not eligible for any federal aid, it will keep you from being disqualified from future financial aid if your financial situation changes.

WHEN SHOULD I FILE MY FAFSA?

You can start filing for the FAFSA as early as January 1. The priority deadline is April 15. Most FAFSA is based on a first-come, first-serve basis. To be first in line, start your application in the first week of January. To complete it, you will need to use your W-2 from the previous year, then update your application as soon as your most current W-2 arrives.

If you are afraid of forgetting to update your application, you can wait on your W-2 form and then file your FAFSA. Most experts are convinced that the earlier you submit your FAFSA the more likely you are to get the most out of your Federal Aid.

You do not have to wait for your acceptance letter to come before you apply for FAFSA. Even if you are undecided on which school you are planning to attend, complete the



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FAFSA. You can file it before you apply for college; however, most schools have more scholarships available and early enrollment benefits when you apply to college early. **You can list up to 10 colleges on your FAFSA** which is used to determine the Cost of Attendance (COA). To do this you will need to get the school codes of the places you are interested in; Southeastern University's FAFSA School Code is 001521.

WHAT INFORMATION DOES FAFSA REQUIRE?

Be sure to complete all the information the FAFSA asks for. A checklist of documents you will need is listed below.

- Your Social Security Card
- Your driver's license (if any)
- Your 2015 W-2 forms
- Your 2015 Federal Income Tax Return
- Your 2015 untaxed income records
- Your current bank statements
- Your parents' Federal Income Tax Return
- Your parents' 2015 W-2 forms
- Your parents' bank statements
- Your parents' untaxed income records
- Your parents' current business and investment records

If your parents are undocumented, completing the application can be difficult. To move forward in the application you can **enter all zeros (000-00-0000)** for the parents social security and add supplementary information to explain your situation.

HOW MANY CREDIT HOURS MUST I TAKE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL AID?

You must be enrolled for at least 6 credit hours for federal student loans and at least 12 credit hours for state aid. As a student at Atlanta Leadership College, you will be enrolled in 9 credit hours per semester. This will make you eligible to receive 75% of the financial aid you are awarded.



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WHAT AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?

The most common financial aid awards are a federal Pell grant, Subsidized and Unsubsidized student loans, a Parent Plus loan, and for Florida residents, the Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG). You will receive a Tentative Award Letter from Student Financial Services that outlines your expected financial aid for the year once your FAFSA has processed successfully.

Pell Grant = Free money toward your tuition.

Subsidized Loan = A loan that does NOT accrue interest while the student is in school.

Unsubsidized Loan = A loan that DOES accrue interest while the student is in school.

Parent PLUS Loan = An additional loan that DOES accrue interest while the student is in school.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT HOW MUCH FINANCIAL AID I AM RECEIVING?

Students must log in to [NetPartner](#) to check their status and complete their financial aid award process. If it's your first time logging in, you'll need to choose "First Time User," and then use your student ID to set up your password. Otherwise, use your ID and password to sign in and explore your financial aid information.

(<https://powerfaids.seu.edu/NetPartnerstudent/Logon.aspx>)

HOW DO I TAKE OUT STUDENT LOANS?

To take out student loans, sign in at studentloans.gov with your student FAFSA PIN. Complete the student entrance counseling section, and then sign the Master Promissory Note.

To take out parent loans, sign in at studentloans.gov with your parent FAFSA PIN, and complete the PLUS request process. Once your credit is approved, endorse the PLUS loan in order to take out the parent loan.

HOW DO I RECEIVE MY FINANCIAL AID AWARD?



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If you do not wish to accept any portion of the financial aid you have been awarded, you must notify the Southeastern Financial Department at sfs@seu.edu. If you do not email them, you will receive the full financial aid amount you have been awarded.

The aid amount you are awarded will be sent directly to Southeastern first. Southeastern will deduct the amount due for your tuition from the total they receive. Any excess will be sent directly to you in a check. Please allow a few weeks after the start of each semester for your check to arrive.