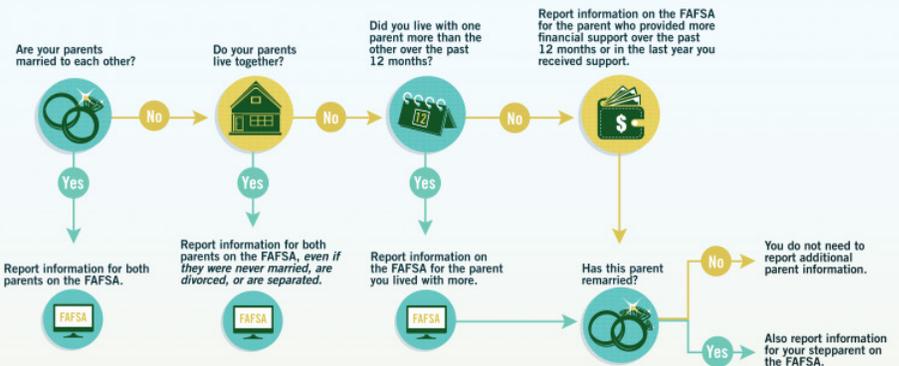# Amazingly Awesome FAFSA Checklist

Here you will find everything you need before filling out your FAFSA.

☐ **1. A positive attitude!** This isn't the most fun activity but it's **SUPER** valuable! Just a little time spent on a single form could save you some serious **$$**.

☐ **2. Snacks, drinks & a comfy chair!** Gather those provisions; you're going to be here awhile! The FAFSA FAQ reports an estimated 55 minutes to complete a first time application, 45 minutes for a Renewal FAFSA and 10 minutes to submit corrections.

☐ **3. High speed Internet access!** Trust us on this one - it's critical! Also, although FAFSA can be completed on your mobile phone, we highly encourage finding a desktop you can cozy up to for a while.

☐ **4. FAFSA ID for you & your parent** (Get it here: https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid)

☐ **5. <u>Your</u> Social Security card AND driver's license + <u>Your parents</u> Social Security numbers.** (*If you are not a U.S. citizen, an alien registration card. If you are an immigrant, your permanent resident card number AKA: USCIS number)

☐ **6. W2's & 1040 forms for yourself and/or your parent(s)/guardians** to verify money earned in the last year. FYI - You might be able to skip the tax doc hunt!

Check out the fancy FAFSA feature that allows you to transfer your federal tax return information directly into your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

☐ **7. Record of ANY additional income you received in the last year** (taxable or not).

- *Welfare benefits*
- *Social Security income*
- *Veteran's benefits*
- *Military or clergy allowances*
- *Taxable work-study*
- *Assistant-ships*
- *Fellowships*
- *Grants & scholarship aid reported to the IRS*
- *Combat pay or special combat pay*

☐ **8. Bank account information** - typically your FAFSA application is interested in total amount in your checking and savings account plus applicable investments made by you or your parents/guardians. *Examples include: stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other investments (if applicable).*

☐ **9. Records relating to any unusual family financial circumstances.** Typically, anything that changed from last year or anything that distinguishes the family from the "typical family" in terms of unusual marital situations, living situations, separations, etc. *You may also need records regarding high non-reimbursed medical and/or dental expenses, unusually high dependent care costs (e.g., for a special needs child or an elderly parent), death, divorce, salary reductions, job loss and private K-12 tuition.*

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WHO'S MY PARENT WHEN I FILL OUT MY FAFSA?

Dependent students are required to report parent information on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA).¹ For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).

Are your parents married to each other? — No → Do your parents live together? — No → Did you live with one parent more than the other over the past 12 months? — No → Report information on the FAFSA for the parent who provided more financial support over the past 12 months or in the last year you received support.

Yes ↓ Report information for both parents on the FAFSA.

Yes ↓ Report information for both parents on the FAFSA, *even if they were never married, are divorced, or are separated.*

Yes ↓ Report information on the FAFSA for the parent you lived with more.

Has this parent remarried? — No → You do not need to report additional parent information.

Yes → Also report information for your stepparent on the FAFSA.

The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:
Widowed Stepparent, Grandparents, Foster Parents, Legal Guardians, Older Brothers or Sisters, Aunts or Uncles

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit StudentAid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out/parent-info or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).
¹ If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to StudentAid.gov/fafsa/filling-out/dependency

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☐ **10. Title IV Institution Codes for every school you are applying to (Nossi's is 017347)!**
Use [FinAid's Title IV School Code Database](#). **Don't hesitate to add EVERY school you're considering attending - even if you haven't applied or been accepted. *You can add up to 10!*

☐ **11. This list of 12 common FAFSA mistakes** (and confusing areas)! Trust us, you don't want to go through the entire application only to see a giant submission error at the end! https://blog.ed.gov/2017/09/12-common-fafsa-mistakes-2/

☐ **12. A backup guide for parents** who need to fill out the FAFSA for their child. We highly recommend that students fill out this application, but if your parent must complete it instead - they're going to need some help! https://blog.ed.gov/2017/09/the-parents-guide-to-filling-out-the-fafsa-form/

☐ **13. If all else fails, contact Nossi College of Art** for more in-depth assistant and to schedule a one-on-one Financial Aid Appointment. We're here to help! Nossi.edu/schedule

START YOUR FAFSA
https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa

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