

Springfield Promise Program

December Newsletter



Great News!

The 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid will be available on **December 31**. Here are some useful FAQs to get you ready.

What is my first step to complete the FAFSA?

Your first step is to create your FSA ID. The FSA ID is a username and password that students and parents use to log in to the Federal Student Aid's online platforms and, in turn, to access the FAFSA. Both students and parents will need their own FSA ID. We recommend that you create your FSA ID now if you haven't already at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>. It takes less than 30 minutes to create, however, it can take up to three days for the FSA ID to become functional within the FAFSA system. So, the sooner you create your FSA ID the better.

I am a parent, and I am not the one going to college or trade school. Why should I create an FSA ID?

At least one parent is required to create an FSA ID (in addition to the student) if the student is a dependent. This is because a parent will also be required to sign the FAFSA before it is submitted. The FSA ID serves as a legally binding signature.

I am a parent; however, I am not a US citizen or an eligible noncitizen. Can I still create an FSA ID?

Every parent of dependent students must have an FSA ID. Come December 31, those without Social Security numbers will be prompted to select "don't have a social security number". FSA will then use TransUnion services to ask knowledge-based questions to help with identity verification. Examples of these questions may include current or former address, a previous phone number, an employer, or a home/auto loan. Answers will be multiple choice (including "none of the above").

Is the 2024-2025 FAFSA role-based?

The FAFSA is now role-based. When the student logs in, they will only have access to student questions. When a parent logs in, they will only have access to questions that pertain to them. Only when the final contributor finishes their section will the form be able to be submitted.

How would I know to complete my section of the FAFSA?

When a student completes their section of the FAFSA, they will include your email address in a required field. You'll then receive an email invite from Federal Student Aid urging you to complete your section. Be sure your student knows your email address, so you can receive your invitation.

I hear I must give IRS consent to transfer my tax information into the FAFSA form is that true?

All students and parents regardless of whether they file a US tax return, will be required to check a box that grants the IRS permission to transfer any data they have directly into the FAFSA form. If no information is on file with the IRS, specific codes will be sent indicating that person's status with the IRS. All contributors providing information on the form MUST grant permission or the student will not be eligible for any federal student aid.

What do I need to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?

You'll need to gather the following:

- FSA ID
- 2022 Federal Tax Returns and W2 (student and parents if applicable)
- Supplemental parental financial information (such as y, savings accounts, investment incomes, untaxed incomes, and more).

Will SPP host FAFSA workshops to help complete and submit the FAFSA?

Starting in January, we'll host the following FAFSA Frenzies for students and parents who have already created their FSA ID. So, please mark your calendar. Registration link to come soon!

- January 6 – 10am -2pm – Central High School
- January 20 – 10am-2pm – Science & Technology High School
- January 27 – 10am – 2pm – High School of Commerce
- February 10 – 10am – 1:30pm – Putnam Vocational High School.