



Your Path Through FAFSA

► Before You Start

When should I apply?

It's never too early to start planning! Complete the FAFSA form as soon as possible to ensure you receive the maximum amount of aid. SDSU's federal school code is 001151.

Eligibility for federal student aid does not carry over from one award year to the next, so you need to fill out the FAFSA form for each award year in which you are or plan to be a student.

What documents do I need to gather to complete this?

Before you fill out the FAFSA, gather all appropriate documents to make the process easier. U.S. citizens typically need their Social Security number, and tax and income records, and your parents' SSNs if they have SSNs and you're a dependent student. Visit <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> to determine exactly what you'll need.

► In the Process

Am I a dependent or independent student?

Your dependency status determines whose information you must report when you fill out the FAFSA. A dependent student is assumed to have the support of parents, so the parents' information must be assessed along with the student's information to get a full picture of the family's financial resources. Your answers to questions on the FAFSA form determine whether you are considered a dependent or independent student. Visit <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/dependency> for more information.

Is there a way to know how much aid I will receive?

Use the Net Price Calculator (<https://sacd.sdsu.edu/financial-aid/financial-aid/eligibility/cost-of-attendance/net-price-calculator>) to estimate the total cost to attend SDSU for the current academic year, financial aid eligibility, and net cost (what you either need to borrow or pay out of pocket).

My household hasn't filed taxes this year. What info should I use?

Don't delay completing your FAFSA until your taxes are filed. Filers must give their consent and approval for federal tax information to be automatically transferred from the IRS to their FAFSA form. If the student and all contributors on the form do not provide consent and approval, the student will not be eligible for federal student aid, including grants and loans. The federal tax information on the FAFSA is from two years before the application year. For example, on the 2025–26 FAFSA, your 2023 tax information will be transferred directly to the form. On the 2026–27 FAFSA, your 2024 tax information will be transferred directly to the form.

Do I have any other financial aid options?

Did you know that SDSU offers more than 800 scholarships to our students? Check out our available scholarships using the Aztec Scholarship Portal at <https://sacd.sdsu.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/sdsu-aztec-scholarships>. You can learn about other types of financial aid at sacd.sdsu.edu/financial-aid.

► After Submitting Your Application

When will I receive my FAFSA results?

Your FAFSA Submission Summary form is available online after you submit your application. Be sure to review that all of the information is accurate and if you find any inaccuracies, be sure to update your FAFSA.

Can I make changes to my FAFSA?

Yes! Sign into your account on <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> to update information if you find any errors. You can make changes until the FAFSA deadline – June 30 after the school year you need aid. For the 2025-26 award year the deadline is June 30, 2026.

► Next Steps

For more information, please visit the Financial Aid and Cal Coast Student Financial Center website at sacd.sdsu.edu/financial-aid.