

FAFSA**IS FOR****YOU**

Funding Your Future FAFSA- FSA ID Creation

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the key to accessing financial aid for college, career, and trade schools, including grants, scholarships, and loans. To get started, you'll need an FSA ID—a personal username and password that allows you to complete, sign, and track your FAFSA online. The steps below will guide you through creating your FSA ID, so you're ready to take the first step toward funding your future after high school!



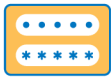
STEP 1: Create Your Account

- Start here: **studentaid.gov**
- Click on "Create Account" on the top right portion of the page
- Once you are on the "Create Account" page, click on "Get Started"



STEP 2: Personal Information

- Provide your full name, date of birth, and 9-digit social security number AS THEY APPEAR on your social security card



STEP 3: Account Information

- **Username:** If you see a message, "The username you entered is already in use" then you need to select another one.
- **Email:** Students should use a PERSONAL email, as school email will not be accessible after graduation
- **Password:** Case-sensitive, between 8 & 30 characters, including at least one uppercase and one lowercase character, and one number. Don't include personal information (date of birth, name, or social security number)



STEP 4: Contact Information

Provide a permanent address and mobile phone number. Phone number will allow for authentication and will aid in account recovery.



STEP 5: Communication Preferences

- Select whether you receive required communication by email (recommended) or postal mail.
- May opt-in to receive informational emails and/or text messages regarding programs for which you may be eligible.
- Select preferred language between English or Spanish



STEP 6: Challenge Questions & Answers

- Select 4 challenge questions from the dropdown menu and write your answers. Answering your challenge questions is one way to unlock your account or retrieve your username or password
- Your answers are NOT case-sensitive



STEP 7: Review & Agree to Terms

- Review carefully and confirm your information
- If you need to make a correction, use the "edit" button within that tile of information.
- Review and agree to FSA's terms and conditions



STEP 8: Enable Two-Step Verification

Whenever you sign into your account, FSA will send a secure code to confirm that it is you. To protect your account, you will need to verify your phone number and email. FSA also suggest setting up an authenticator app.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Your information will be sent to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for confirmation. SSA review will take 1-3 days; you will receive a confirmation email when this is complete.



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As experts in FAFSA support, CYC provides resources, guidance, and hands-on help to ensure students have the financial aid knowledge they need to achieve their college dreams. Questions - contact ccheek@cycyouth.org or visit www.itsforyou.org.