

Financing

Your College Education

THE FAFSA



Frequently Asked Questions

» **How do I receive Financial Aid at UTSA?**

Students must complete the FAFSA in order to be considered for financial aid. Financial aid consists of different types of Grants, Scholarships, Work-Study, and Loans. Please be aware that the earlier you complete the FAFSA, the more aid you may be eligible for.

» **Where do I obtain the FAFSA?**

The online application is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov and is the preferred method. The online application is faster than the paper application (which usually can be obtained at high school guidance offices). Please note that the FAFSA is a FREE application. You do NOT need to use other websites (that charge you) to complete the FAFSA.

» **What do I need to complete the FAFSA?**

You will need a copy of your tax returns if you filed taxes, your parents' tax returns if you are under the age of 24 and not married, and your spouse's tax return if married in order to complete the application. You also should have all W2s available.

» **What is a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID?**

The FSA ID comes from the U.S. Department of Education and serves as your electronic signature for online applications and account management. You can request an FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>.

» **What is a Student Aid Report?**

The SAR (Student Aid Report) is the report you will receive after completing the FAFSA. It includes your answers to the questions on the FAFSA and should be reviewed carefully. The SAR also includes your Expected Family Contribution (see below). Colleges will receive the information from your SAR electronically. That is how the college will award your financial aid.

» **What is the Expected Family Contribution?**

The EFC (Expected Family Contribution) is the Federal Government's calculation that lets colleges know how much you or your family are expected to contribute to your education that year. Your EFC determines how much financial aid you are eligible for by establishing your overall financial need.

» **What do I do if I made an error on the FAFSA?**

You can make corrections to your FAFSA at the FAFSA website: <http://fafsa.ed.gov>

» **How do I find more information for specific questions regarding FAFSA?**

For more specific questions, please visit the FAFSA website at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm>. In addition, you can call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243.

**UTSA's School
Code is 010115**

**FAFSA opens Oct 1.
Apply early to
optimize your grant
opportunities.**



Most Common Mistakes

Made on the FAFSA



- 1 Using a Nickname:** You must use your legal name (look to your Social Security card) on the FAFSA rather than nicknames.
- 2 Parent Information:** One of the most common mistakes on the FAFSA is when Social Security Numbers and Dates of Birth of parents of dependent children are not included. Leaving this information blank will cause the FAFSA to be rejected. If parents do not have a Social Security Number, use 000-00-0000.
- 3 Who Completes the FAFSA:** Remember the FAFSA assumes the student is completing the FAFSA. If a parent is completing the FAFSA, remember that the word 'you' refers to the student.
- 4 Answer with Cents:** Dollar amounts should not include cents. Do not indicate one hundred dollars as 100.00 as the FAFSA will read that 10,000.
- 5 Marital Status:** This refers to the marital status (student and/or parents) at the moment the FAFSA is filed. If someone is separated but still married, then the answer to Marital Status should be 'Yes'.
- 6 Independent Status:** Another common mistake involves independent status. Most students under the age of 24 will have to indicate dependent status. Please read that information carefully and call the college or university's financial aid office if you have additional questions or believe you qualify for independent status.
- 7 Number in Household and College:** Read this part carefully and remember to include yourself as a person in college (you will be for the coming year!).
- 8 Errors Involving Taxes, Worksheets, and Assets:** Be extremely careful with these areas. Read all information closely. This can be a tricky part of the FAFSA. Feel free to have your parent(s) help with this section.
- 9 On-Campus versus Off-Campus:** The answer to this question will impact your financial aid award letter. Answer "On-Campus" if you intend to live at the University away from your household.
- 10 2020 Taxes:** You will use the 2020 tax returns for the 2022-2023 academic year. If you're eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT), you can also speed up your FAFSA completion process by using it to electronically import your taxes.

REMEMBER THIS DEADLINE!

January 15, 2022

- » Deadline to submit UTSA General Scholarship Application on the UTSA Scholarship Hub at onestop.utsa.edu/hub
- » Priority Deadline to submit FAFSA
- » Priority Deadline to Apply for Admission to UTSA for Fall 2022

The Most Important Thing To Remember About Financial Aid Is...

➔ **APPLY EARLY!!**

For the 2022-23 school year, students can submit their FAFSA as early as October 1, 2021. Applying early provides students the best opportunities for funding.

Financing Your College Education

THE TASFA



Frequently Asked Questions

» How do I receive Financial Aid at UTSA?

Non-citizen students who qualify for Texas House Bill 1403 must complete the TASFA in order to be considered for state financial aid. Financial aid consists of possible Grants, Scholarships, and Loans. Please be aware that funds are very limited, so the earlier you submit the application, the better.

» What is Texas House Bill 1403?

Texas House Bill 1403 is a law that passed in 2001 that allows certain non-citizen students to pay in-state tuition at a Texas public university and to qualify for state financial aid.

» How do I find out if I qualify for Texas House Bill 1403?

You can find information on Texas House Bill 1403 at onestop.utsa.edu/financialaid/apply/tasfa/. Students with a DACA Social Security Card submit a TASFA, not a FAFSA.

» Where do I obtain the TASFA?

The paper application is available at www.collegeforalltexas.com. The application must be submitted in paper format to the school as it is not available to be submitted online. Please note that the TASFA is a FREE application. Males must register with the Selective Service System at www.sss.gov.

» What do I need to complete the TASFA?

You will need a copy of your tax return if you filed taxes, your parents' tax returns if you are under the age of 24 and not married, and your spouse's tax return if married in order to complete the application. You will also need to request an IRS tax return transcript for all tax returns from your local IRS Office. You also should have all W2s available. Tax returns must be physically signed by the filer.

» Does UTSA have a deadline to submit the TASFA?

Yes, the deadline is extremely critical! The final date to submit a TASFA each year is January 15th for the following aid year, but because funding is limited, we encourage students to submit it as soon as possible.

» How much financial aid could I possibly receive and when will I know the amount?

Students who submit a TASFA cannot be awarded more in financial aid than the cost of their tuition and fees per semester, though there is never a guarantee that students will be awarded this amount. Funds are not awarded for Summer semesters. We will start awarding first time freshmen in December.

» How do I find more information for specific questions regarding the TASFA?

For more specific questions, contact your Admissions Counselor or call UTSA's One Stop Enrollment Center at the number below.

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