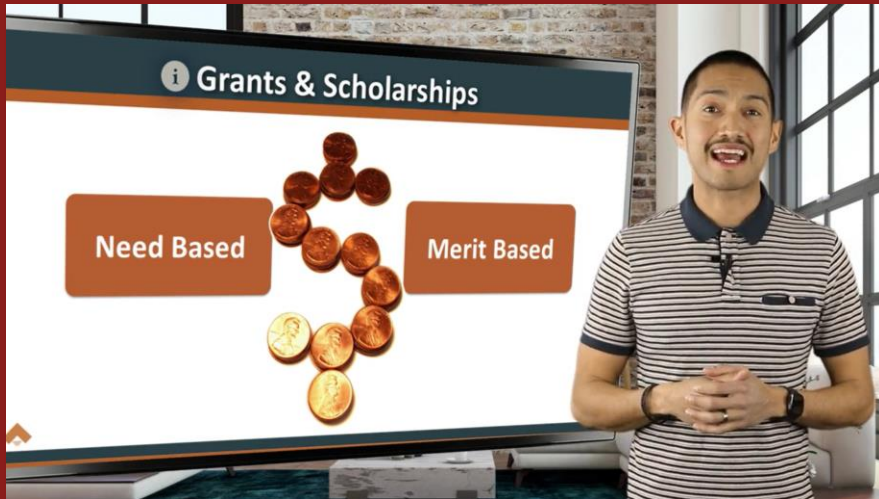




# FAFSA Fundamentals

<b>Content Areas</b>	Aid Overview   Applying & Paying Back
<b>Audience</b>	Everyone
<b># Modules</b>	2 for General Market & Corrections
<b>Instructional Time</b>	:90 Minutes Each 4 Hours Total
<b>Format</b>	Video Lectures   Activities   Discussion Questions
<b>Availability</b>	Tablet, DVD, & Online

# FAFSA Fundamentals



## Financial Aid Basics

A look at all potential sources of student aid to help pay for your degree.

## Apply Yourself

Filling out the FAFSA and CSS profile, repayment options.



# Step-by-Step Class Sessions

Acceleron

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CD951: The Application Process

1. \_\_\_\_\_ True or false, every student who lives at home is considered the following is NOT a method for completing the FAFSA.

Acceleron  
Apply Yourself  
CD951

2. Apply Yourself  
Facilitator Prep Guide

Unit Description:

Continuing your education is expensive! This unit will address the "guts" of the application process.

- Your eligibility for various forms of aid
- Application details
- Key documents and deadlines
- Making repayment plans

Unit Materials:

The materials for this unit that the students will need are:

- Worksheets
- Pencil

Quick Overview:

A quick outline of the unit includes:

- Eligibility based on conviction and facility
- Additional funding opportunities in Texas
- FAFSA Application parts
- Dependency status
- Key documents
- What happens after you submit
- Repayment plans
- Delinquency and default
- Lowering your payments
- What to do right now, during incarceration

1. Introduction to the Lesson

Today we are going to learn how to actually fill out financial aid applications. We will focus on the steps in the process. Key deadlines to watch out for, and things to remember for repaying those loans later. The format of our class will be:

90 Minute Class Flow

- 05 Introduction
- 05 Video Segment 1
- 05 Discussion Questions
- 05 Video Segment 2
- 05 Discussion Questions
- 05 Quiz
- 05 Transitions

Current Events

In July 2021, the U.S. Department of Education announced it will expand the Second Chance Pell experiment for the 2022-2023 award year. The Second Chance Pell experiment has provided education opportunities for thousands of justice-involved individuals who have previously been unable to access federal need-based financial aid. The expansion will allow up to 200 colleges and universities to offer their prison education programs with support from the Pell Grant program, up from the 131 currently participating. Expansion of the experiment is part of the Department's efforts to expand access and equity in higher education.

"Education plays a crucial role in peoples' ability to prosper and advance," said Amy Loyd, Acting Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education. "Too often justice impacted individuals are left out of the higher-education landscape."

Source: <https://www.ed.gov/newsroom/releases/department-education-announces-it-will-expand-second-chance-pell-experiment-2022-2023-award-year>

Acceleron

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

FAFSA Activity Worksheet - 3

Directions: If you are a DEPENDENT student, complete the following information about your parents.

1. Interview Smartphone/ Tablet used Form

2. If you are a DEPENDENT student, you will need to gather investment records for 1 year, the CSS Profile requires documentation that is 12 months ways to maximize your EFC offer include:

g information on the form

g How many people who live in your parent's household will be in college this next academic year?

g At any time, did you, your parents, or anyone in your household receive benefits from any of the federal programs?

g Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) g Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

g Free or Reduced Price School Lunch g Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

g Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

What is your parent's marital status?

g Single g Married g Separated g Divorced g Widowed

Have your parents completed their IRS income tax return?

g Yes g No

What was their adjusted gross income?

What month/year were they married, separated, divorced or widowed?

What are their exemptions?

What was their income tax amount?

As of today, what is the net worth of their total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts?

As of today, what is the net worth of their investments, including real estate?

As of today, what is the net worth of their current businesses and/or investment firms?

PERMITTING/USE PRIOR PAGE: Why do you think it is available to students? How does higher education help?

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE FAFSA? Don't wait!

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## 90- Minute Class Flow

:05

Introduction

:10

Video Segment 1

:10

Discussion Questions

:10

Video Segment 2

:10

Discussion Questions

:10

Quiz

:30

Activity

:05

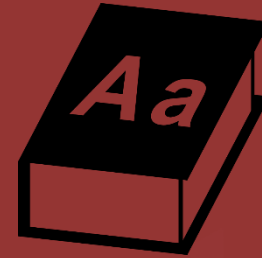
Transitions

Anyone  
Can  
Facilitate  
OR  
Self-Paced  
Online

# Goals for Instruction



Vocabulary



App Completion

Helpful Take-Aways





# Instructor, Peer, or Volunteer-Led Step-by-Step Facilitation

## 2. The Application Process

### Facilitator Prep Guide

#### Unit Description:

Continuing your education is expensive! This unit will address applying for the FAFSA to help you get money to continue your education. This unit addresses topics related to:

- Vocabulary related to the FAFSA and CSS
- Documents you will need
- Expected Family Contribution calculation
- Key deadlines

#### Unit Materials:

The materials for this unit that the students will need are:

- Worksheets (Pages 7-10)
- Pencil

#### Quick Overview:

A quick outline of the unit includes:

- Information about the FAFSA
- Vocabulary
- Dependency Status
- Documents you need
- EFC overview
- Maximizing your EFC calculation
- Completing the FAFSA
- After completing the FAFSA
- Next steps after applying

1.

To do the focus you key class

Unit Materials:

A quick outline of the unit includes:

### The Lesson Presentation

#### 1. Introduction to the Lesson (Continued)

##### Historical Context

According to the Lumina Foundation, in 1966, the "Massachusetts Higher Education guaranteed student loan program in Massachusetts, which insured students' b donations from local businesses. This program provided a model for a future in major growth in federal student loan programs, and by the mid-1980s, people's (unable to pay back loans) and the total cost to government.

##### Social Context

For nearly three decades, a bachelor's degree has been the clearest path to fit true that some kind of additional education and training beyond high school is wonder if a traditional 4-year degree is the only answer. The good news is that year degrees, career college certifications, four year degrees, and even grad s

##### Personal Context

Continuing your education can give you important skills such as working collab more global view. While the FAFSA may not be the most exciting thing to spen and scholarships are especially important because they reduce your overall fin

#### 2. Show Video Part 1 (After, ask for "take-away")

#### 3. Discussion Questions Video Part 1

1. Why is it important to "plan the work" before diving into the actual application form?

- Potential responses to question 1: (responses will vary)
- There are a lot of documents you need to gather in order to make accurate inputs
  - If you are a dependent, your parents will have to be involved. The sooner they know, the better.
  - Reviewing the form before filling it out helps you to anticipate the information needed and make smart decisions
  - The old adage "measure twice, cut once" definitely applies. If you make inaccurate inputs, it can impact your total aid award

Potential responses to question 1: (responses will vary)

- E
- W
- N
- S
- A
- D
- A
- P

3. When you are looking at your education, what are some of the costs you need to consider?

- Potential responses to question 3: (answers may vary)
- Tuition
  - Fees
  - Books
  - Rent
  - Food
  - Gas
  - Supplies

5. What are some of the documents you are required to have if you are an independent student?

- Potential responses to question 5: (responses will vary)
- Social Security Number
  - Alien Registration Number (if not a citizen)
  - Checking account bank statement
  - IRS W-2 information
  - Any assets
  - Savings account bank statement
  - Full/legal name
  - Stocks and bonds information
  - Legal Name

#### 4. Show Video Part 2 (After, ask for "take-away")

4. I

Potential responses to question 1: (responses will vary)

- The CSS considers the value of your home (an asset) as part of the EFC calculation
- The CSS assumes that your family will make some contribution to paying for your education, while the FAFSA does not

#### 5. Discussion Questions Video Part 2

1. What is the major difference between the FAFSA and the CSS in terms of EFC calculation?

- Potential responses to question 1: (responses will vary)
- The CSS considers the value of your home (an asset) as part of the EFC calculation
  - The CSS assumes that your family will make some contribution to paying for your education, while the FAFSA does not

3. You probably found all of that EFC maximization stuff dense or confusing. What should you do about that?

- Potential responses to question 3: (responses will vary)
- If you are a dependent, talk to your parents. That information is more applicable to them anyway!
  - Talk with a financial advisor and/or attorney to make smart decisions based on your family's financial situation
  - Focus on income—If you don't have a bunch of assets (like a house etc.) or family members in college—then the income stuff is the key.
    - ⇒ Use Adjusted Gross Income, don't confuse taxes paid with withholdings

2. What calculab

- Potential responses to question 2: (responses will vary)
- Avoid inco
  - Cha and imp
  - The colt

4. How benefit

5. What are the major components of the FAFSA Application?

- Potential responses to question 5: (responses will vary)
- Student Basic Information
  - Dependency Status
  - Parent Financial Info
  - Student Financial Info

#### 6. Quiz (Grade during activity, then review/return)

#### 7. Activity

Description of the activity:

- The students will use the worksheets on pages 7-9 to prepare for the FAFSA application. If they are planning to attend a private college, they will also complete the information on page 10 for the CSS Profile. These worksheets include:
- Gathering the resources they need
  - Getting any additional information they do not have
  - Completing key information on the actual application forms

HAVE COMPLETED THE FAFSA

### Key Take-Aways from Each Video Segment

#### Video Segment 1:

- If you're a dependent student, you'll need to provide your parents' information EVEN if they are not planning on contributing to your education.
- Start gathering input documents as early as possible, and put them in a folder.
- FAFSA awards aren't magic, they are driven by something called the expected family contribution.
- Within the bounds of the law, you want to do what you can to maximize your award offer.

#### Video Segment 2:

- People often make three kinds of errors for EFC calculation: Income, assets, and enrolled family members.
- You can complete the FAFSA three ways: Online, using a mobile app, or on paper.
- You will get a Student Aid Report (SAR) after you complete your FAFSA. This tells you your eligibility for various forms of financial aid.
- You must re-apply for the FAFSA and CSS (if applicable) every year that you are a student!

To run the course, you'll also need...

- TV or projector/speakers
- Internet or DVD player
- Access to a photocopier
- Pencils or pens
- Tables and chairs





Ton Of Helpful

# Resources & Tools

- Topic Setup & Context
- Discussion Questions
- Activities & Handouts
- Quizzes & Keys
- Dozens of Web Resources
- Slides & Transcripts
- Marketing Flyers
- Certificate Templates



FAFSA Activity Worksheet

Directions: Gather the following for yourself and from your parent(s) and place a check after you get it.

Document	Self	Parent
Legal Name		
Date of Birth		
Social Security Number		
Alien Registration Number (if not a citizen)		
IRS W-2 Information		
Records of Unearned Income		
Bank Statements for Checking & Savings		
Stocks & Bonds		
Business & Farm Assets		

What is your marital status?  
☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Separated ☐ Divorced/ Widowed  
What month/year were you married, separated, divorced or widowed?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you completed your IRS income tax return?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

As of today, what is the net worth of you (and your spouse's) total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts?

Have you been for the possession of illegal drugs that occurred while receiving student aid?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

What was your spouse's adjusted income?

As of today, what is the net worth of you (and your spouse's) total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts?

FAFSA Fundamentals CD051

FAFSA Activity Worksheet ~ 2

Directions: Check "Yes" or "No" to determine if you are an independent or dependent student.

	Yes	No
Are you or were you 24 by January 1 of this year?		
As of today, are you married (but not divorced or separated)?		
At the beginning of the upcoming school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)?		
Are you currently serving on active duty in the US Armed Forces for purposes other than training?		
Are you a veteran of the US Armed Forces?		
Do you now or will you have children who receive more than half of their support from you for this past year?		
Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you for this past year?		
At any time since you turned 13, were both of your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?		
As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?		
Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?		
At any time, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?		
At any time, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?		
At any time, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?		

Directions: If you answered YES to any of the above then you are INDEPENDENT. Now complete these.

Including you, how many people live in your household? Include yourself, your spouse, your children if you provide half of their support, other people if you provide more than half of your support.

How many people who live in your household will be in college this next academic year?

At any time, did you (or your spouse) or anyone in your household receive benefits from any of the federal programs?  
☐ Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) ☐ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)  
☐ Free or Reduced Price School Lunch ☐ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)  
☐ Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Page 8

Self-Contained Training

Instructor Led



Peer Educator Led

Volunteer Led




**FAFSA FUNDAMENTALS  
CERTIFICATION**

IS HEREBY CONFERRED UPON

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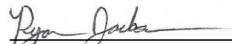
BY



Financial Aid Basics      Apply Yourself

\_\_\_\_\_  
INSTRUCTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

  
CEO, ACCELERON LEARNING

Optional

# Certification