

FAFSA & TASFA Made Simple

Una Guía Paso a Paso para Familias

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The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the TASFA (Texas Application for State Financial Aid) are the forms that help students access financial aid for college and career training programs. Completing the right form for your family's situation helps you access the grants, scholarships, and loans available to you.

Completar el formulario correcto le ayuda a acceder a las becas, subsidios o préstamos disponibles para usted.

WHICH FORM IS RIGHT FOR YOU? / ¿QUÉ FORMULARIO LE CORRESPONDE?

- U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or eligible noncitizen → Complete the FAFSA at fafsa.gov
- Not eligible for the FAFSA? You may qualify for TASFA at collegeforalltexas.com, depending on current Texas rules and school requirements. Some schools may request both FAFSA- and TASFA-related documentation depending on your status and the school's process.
- Not sure which applies to you? Contact Anchored Pathways — we will help you figure it out without judgment.

Podría calificar para TASFA según las reglas vigentes de Texas y los requisitos de cada escuela. Algunas escuelas podrían solicitar documentación de FAFSA y de TASFA según su situación y el proceso de la institución.

Si no está seguro de qué formulario le corresponde, comuníquese con Anchored Pathways. Le ayudaremos a determinarlo sin juzgarle.

WHEN TO APPLY / CUÁNDO SOLICITAR

The 2026–2027 FAFSA is available now and covers July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Apply as early as possible, since federal aid and some school aid can be limited. Deadlines vary by institution and program — check each school's financial aid office for its priority deadline. TASFA timelines also vary by institution, so students should confirm the deadline with each college they are considering.

La FAFSA 2026–2027 ya está disponible y cubre del 1 de julio de 2026 al 30 de junio de 2027. Solicítela lo antes posible, ya que algunos fondos son limitados. Las fechas límite varían según la institución y el programa; verifique la fecha prioritaria con la oficina de ayuda financiera de cada escuela.

CREATING AN FSA ID / CREAR UN ID DE FSA

Before starting the FAFSA, the student and any required contributors must create an FSA ID at studentaid.gov/fsa-id. This is your electronic signature for the form — exactly who counts as a required contributor depends on the family's situation.

- Some contributors without a Social Security number may still be able to create an FSA ID through the current Federal Student Aid process. Check the latest instructions at studentaid.gov before starting.

Algunos contribuyentes sin número de Seguro Social aún podrían crear un ID de FSA mediante el proceso actual de Federal Student Aid. Verifique las instrucciones más recientes en studentaid.gov antes de comenzar.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID / ERRORES COMUNES

- Waiting too long — early submission increases your chance of full aid
- Mixing up student and parent information — double-check names and SSNs
- Forgetting to sign and submit — all required contributors must sign electronically
- Using the wrong tax information year — for the 2026–2027 FAFSA award year, use 2024 income and tax information

IMPORTANT / IMPORTANTE

Texas Licensing Alert: As of January 26, 2026, TDLR requires some initial or renewal applicants to submit documentation establishing lawful presence in the United States for certain professional licenses. This applies mainly when a student is entering a licensed field — if a student is considering a licensed profession, check those requirements before enrolling in training.

Alerta de Licencias en Texas: A partir del 26 de enero de 2026, TDLR exige que algunos solicitantes iniciales o de renovación presenten documentación que establezca presencia legal en los Estados Unidos para ciertas licencias profesionales. Esto aplica principalmente cuando el estudiante ingresa a un campo con licencia; si considera una profesión con licencia, verifique esos requisitos antes de inscribirse en la capacitación.

How Anchored Pathways Can Help / Cómo Puede Ayudar

We guide families through every step — from creating FSA IDs to uploading documents to understanding your financial aid offer. You do not have to figure this out alone.

Always confirm school-specific deadlines and requirements directly with each institution, since these can change.