



## **Anchored Pathways to Higher Education**

*Because no one should make the journey alone.*

*Porque nadie debería hacer el camino solo.*

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### **FAFSA & TASFA Made Simple**

*A Step-by-Step Guide for Families / Una Guía Paso a Paso para Familias*

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

*Completar el formulario correcto asegura que reciba 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](https://fafsa.gov)
- Undocumented student who meets Texas residency requirements (HB 1403) → Complete the TASFA at [collegeforalltexas.com](https://collegeforalltexas.com)
- Not sure which applies to you? Contact Anchored Pathways — we will help you figure it out without judgment.

*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 open now. Apply as early as possible — some aid is first-come, first-served.

- Texas state aid priority deadline: January 15, 2026
- School-specific deadlines vary — check with each college you are applying to
- TASFA has no federal deadline but follows the same Texas priority dates

*La FAFSA 2026–2027 está abierta ahora. Solicite lo antes posible — algunas ayudas se asignan por orden de llegada. Fecha límite prioritaria para ayuda estatal de Texas: 15 de enero de 2026.*

### **Creating an FSA ID / Crear un ID de FSA**

Before starting the FAFSA, every contributor (student and parent) must create an FSA ID at [studentaid.gov/fsa-id](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id). This is your electronic signature for the form.

- Parents without a Social Security Number can still create an FSA ID using identity verification questions.
- Padres sin número de Seguro Social aún pueden crear un ID de FSA usando preguntas de verificación de identidad.

## 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 — both student and parent must sign electronically
- Using the wrong tax year — for 2026–2027 FAFSA, use 2024 income and tax information

## How Anchored Pathways Can Help / Cómo Puede Ayudar Anchored Pathways

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.

*Guiamos a las familias en cada paso — desde crear los ID de FSA hasta entender su carta de ayuda financiera. No tiene que hacerlo solo.*

### **IMPORTANT / IMPORTANTE**

As of May 1, 2026, Texas requires proof of legal immigration status to obtain many professional licenses through TDLR. If your student is considering a trade or career requiring a state license, talk to us before enrolling in a training program.

*A partir del 1 de mayo de 2026, Texas exige prueba de estatus migratorio legal para obtener muchas licencias profesionales. Si su estudiante considera una carrera que requiere licencia estatal, háganos antes de inscribirse.*

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*EIN: 39-4454436 | 501(c)(3) Nonprofit*