



# FAFSA Completion Events

## Need help with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?

Get free on-site help in completing the FAFSA and speak with financial aid professionals about resources available to pay for higher education.

**Thursday, December 20, 2018**

**Guadalupe Center**  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
509 Hope Circle - Immokalee, FL

**Thursday, December 27, 2018**

**Grace Place for Children & Families**  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
4300 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. SW - Naples, FL

**Friday, December 28, 2018**

**Grace Place for Children & Families**  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
4300 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. SW - Naples, FL

**Wednesday, January 2, 2019**

**Champions For Learning**  
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
3606 Enterprise Ave., Suite 150  
Naples, FL

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

**The Immokalee Foundation**  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
908 Roberts Avenue W  
Immokalee, FL

## Who should attend?

**Dependent students:** (generally those under 24) need to attend with a parent or legal guardian. Parent(s) or legal guardian must bring the tax information listed below and the items listed on the "Things You Need to Bring" checklist.

**Independent students:** (24 and over) will not require a parent's income, but must bring the tax information listed below and the items listed on the "Things You Need to Bring" checklist.

## What to do 3-5 days BEFORE going to a FAFSA Completion Event

- Student AND parents need to obtain their FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>

### If you have filed your 2017 tax return, bring:

- Your (an applicable parents' or spouse's) most recent Federal income tax return
  - IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ
  - Foreign tax return, or
  - Tax return from Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federal States of Micronesia

### If you have NOT filed your 2017 tax return:, bring

- All applicable W-2 forms
- A list of all income earned not listed on a W-2 form

## Things you need to bring

- You and your parent need to bring your FSA IDs
- Social Security numbers for you and your parents (if they have one)
- 2017 Federal income tax return for you and/or your parents (or W-2s and records of money earned if you/your parents did not file in 2017)
- If you are not a U.S. Citizen, bring your Alien Registration Number

### PRIVACY

All information reviewed by volunteers will be kept private and confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than helping the students and families apply for financial aid. Student and family identities will be protected to the best extent possible, and none of the information being requested will be sent to vendors for other purposes besides applying for aid.



FutureMakers Coalition Partner

# Myths About Financial Aid

**Don't fall for these myths about federal student aid and the application process!**

**“My parents make too much money, so I won't qualify for aid.”**

**Reality:** There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors besides income—from the size of your family to the age of your older parent—are taken into account. Your eligibility is determined by a mathematical formula, not by your parents' income alone. And remember: when you fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®), you're also automatically applying for funds from your state, and possibly from your school as well. In fact, some schools won't even consider you for any of their scholarships (including academic scholarships) until you've submitted a FAFSA. Don't make assumptions about what you'll get—fill out the application and find out.

**“Only students with good grades get financial aid.”**

**Reality:** While a high grade point average will help a student get into a good school and may help with academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student's grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress in his or her program of study, federal student aid will help a student with an average academic record complete his or her education.

**“My ethnicity or age makes me ineligible for federal student aid.”**

**Reality:** There are basic eligibility requirements (which you can find at [StudentAid.gov/eligibility](http://StudentAid.gov/eligibility)), but ethnicity and age are not considered.

**“I support myself, so I don't have to include parent info on the FAFSA®.”**

**Reality:** This is not necessarily true. Even if you support yourself and file taxes on your own, you may still be considered a dependent student for federal student aid purposes. If you are independent, you won't need to include your parents' information on your FAFSA. But if you are dependent, you must provide your parents' information. The FAFSA asks a series of questions to determine your dependency status. You can preview the questions at [StudentAid.gov/dependency](http://StudentAid.gov/dependency).

**“What if my parent doesn't have a social security number?”**

If your parent doesn't have a social security number they won't be able to create an FSA ID, but you will be able to print a signature page within the FAFSA that your parent can physically sign and mail in to the address on the form. Remember, your eligibility for aid only depends on your citizenship status, not that of your parents.

**So what's next?**

Go to [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov), fill out the application, and see what you get!

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FutureMakers Coalition Partner

A network of organizations, businesses, schools and community members working to ensure every child in Collier County is ready for Kindergarten, and every young person enters adulthood with a vision and plan to accomplish that vision.