



October 2007

Subject: 2008–09 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Distribution Update

Dear Counselor or Librarian or Mentor:

Attention: Change in Distribution for 2008–09

For 2008–09 paper FAFSAs will not be available for order in bulk. Students will be able to obtain a paper FAFSA by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or by visiting www.edpubs.org. Students may request up to three copies of the paper application and should receive their FAFSAs in three to seven business days.

New for 2008–09 is a PDF version of the FAFSA that students can submit for processing. Beginning in mid-November the PDF will be available for download on various Federal Student Aid Web sites, such as www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov. Students can access the PDF, complete the form on the computer or by hand, and mail it to the address provided for processing. Schools will also be able to access the PDF from www.FSAPubs.org.

With your support, we will continue to encourage students to use the online method for filing the application. The *FAFSA on the Web Worksheet*, the most effective tool students can use to facilitate the online application process, will still be available for bulk order by schools. In addition, Federal Student Aid has several promotional publications that list application resources, explain how students can file the FAFSA, and provide tips for completing the application. In mid-November, we will include some of these items in our Toolkit mailing to all high schools, libraries, and other community organizations on our mailing list.

Why We Made This Change

While we have successfully decreased reliance on the paper FAFSA over the last several years, until now, Federal Student Aid has continued to print and distribute millions of unused paper forms to schools each year. Approximately 500,000 paper FAFSAs have been processed to date for 2007–08. For the same period in 2006–07, there were 778,000 forms processed. These numbers represent almost a 50 percent decline in the number of paper applications processed. Understanding the importance of this trend, Federal Student Aid concluded that our new distribution strategy not only reduces waste and costs, it also provides students with viable alternatives for completing and submitting the FAFSA.

Help Us Keep in Touch With You

We plan to increase our use of e-mail as a communication vehicle; please visit www.FSAPubs.org and check your account information to confirm that we have the correct e-mail address for you. FSAPubs is the one-stop source for ordering all of Federal Student Aid's free publications. Please review the attachment for information on a few of our most popular publications.

Thank you again for your continued support in moving to alternate methods of completing the FAFSA. If you have any questions or comments about the information provided in this letter, please email us at FAFSA.Comments@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Douglas
General Manager, Student Aid Awareness and Applicant Services
Federal Student Aid, Department of Education

830 First St. N.E., Washington, DC 20202
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
1-800-4-FED-AID



Page 1 of Attachment: 2008–09 Publications Update

Let's begin with a review of some of the publications available for 2008-09. Each section contains a brief publication description, information on the intended audience, the date that you may order, the date the item will begin shipping, and the strategy for distribution of the publication. For a full listing of publications available, visit www.FSAPubs.org.

2008–09 FAFSA on the Web Worksheet **(Also available in Spanish and Braille)**

The Worksheet is the appropriate tool to assist students and parents completing the FAFSA online. Over 95 percent of FAFSA applications are submitted on the Web, and the Worksheet provides students and parents the opportunity to gather the information needed before sitting down at the computer. The Worksheet follows the flow and logic of the online application and is therefore the appropriate tool for Web filers.

Intended Audience:	Students and Parents
Date Available for Order:	October 15 th
Shipping Will Begin:	Mid November
Strategy for Distribution:	Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084. Worksheets will not be mailed automatically.

*Included in
08-09 Toolkit*

2008–09 Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **(Also available in Spanish and Braille)**

This free application is used to apply for federal, state and institutional grants, work-study and loans. This paper application is available for those who do not have Internet access. The FAFSA collects financial and other information used to calculate an Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Intended Audience:	Students and Parents
Date Available for Order:	PDF version available for download November 15 th
Shipping Will Begin:	Not Applicable
Strategy for Distribution:	Not available for bulk order; Limited quantities available by special request. Visit www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

Do You Need Money for College? Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid **(Also available in Spanish)**

This brochure explains the options for obtaining and completing the FAFSA. Also included are tips for completing the application and information on how to get free help online, by phone, or in person.

Intended Audience:	Students and Parents
Date Available for Order:	October 15 th
Shipping Will Begin:	Early November
Strategy for Distribution:	Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

*Included in
08-09 Toolkit*

830 First St. N.E., Washington, DC 20202
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
1-800-4-FED-AID



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FAFSA4caster Hall Pass **(Also available in Spanish)**

The FAFSA4caster provides students with early information. Students considering furthering their education beyond high school can use this FREE tool to calculate their eligibility for federal student aid. This flyer explains the main benefits of FAFSA4caster to students and their families.

Intended Audience: Students and Parents
Date Available for Order: Available Now
Shipping Will Begin: Immediately; Spanish will begin shipping in early November
Strategy for Distribution: Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

*Included in
08-09 Toolkit*

FAFSA on the Web Poster

This 11 X 17 full-color poster encourages students to apply for federal student aid using *FAFSA on the Web*. The poster also encourages students to apply on time, beginning January 1st. The poster also includes a blank box in which counselors can write specific state deadlines.

Intended Audience: Students and Parents
Date Available for Order: Available Now
Shipping Will Begin: Immediately
Strategy for Distribution: Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

Bookmark – Start Here. Federal Student Aid. **(Spanish translation on back; also available in Braille)**

The bookmark is a simple and portable reference tool for students and parents seeking information on financial aid. Provides the URL to Federal Student Aid's Web site (www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov) and the Federal Student Aid Information Center's toll-free number (1-800-4-FED-AID).

Intended Audience: Students and Parents
Date Available for Order: Available Now
Shipping Will Begin: Immediately
Strategy for Distribution: Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

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Page 3 of Attachment: 2008–09 Publications Update

Students.gov: Student Gateway to the U.S. Government Brochure

This tri-fold covers the information and services that are available on the Students.gov Web site. Services include doing business with agencies such as Department of Education, Postal Service, or the IRS. Information links include those related to career development, travel and family, financial aid, and voter registration.

Intended Audience: Students and Parents
Date Available for Order: Available Now
Shipping Will Begin: Immediately
Strategy for Distribution: Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

2008–09 Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid (Also available in Spanish and Braille)

This book is the most comprehensive resource for high school students, college students, parents, and nontraditional students. The publication includes an overview of the federal student aid application process as well as detailed steps for taking action during each phase. In addition, the glossary clarifies financial aid terminology.

Intended Audience: Students and Parents
Date Available for Order: October 15th
Shipping Will Begin: Mid-November
Strategy for Distribution: Order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084

*Included in
08-09 Toolkit*

Counselors And Mentors Handbook on Federal Student Aid (Also available in Spanish at www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov)

Provides useful information to help high school and TRIO counselors and other mentors advise students about federal student aid. Included are handouts on a variety of topics, from financial aid scams, to independent status, to the Federal Student Aid PIN.

Intended Audience: High School, TRIO, and GEAR UP counselors and other mentors
Date Available for Order: October 15th
Shipping Will Begin: Early November
Strategy for Distribution: One copy of the Handbook will be mailed to each organization. For additional quantities, order at www.FSAPubs.org or call 1-800-394-7084.

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