

Federal Resources

www.FSA4counselors.ed.gov

FSA for Counselors provides basic college access and financial aid information for middle school, high school, and TRIO counselors. Features include the *Counselors and Mentors Handbook*, other federal student aid publications (with instructions on how to download or order them), training information, and scripts and slides for presenting a financial aid night. The PDF FAFSA is available on this site. Click on “Network & Potential Partnerships” in the Counselor Resources section to locate financial aid professionals in your community who can assist you.

www.studentaid.ed.gov

Studentaid.ed.gov is Federal Student Aid’s gateway Web site for students. It provides a wealth of knowledge, including information about applying for college and financial aid, information about financial aid, scholarship and career searches, and links to other Web sites. Students can access the PDF version of the FAFSA from *studentaid.ed.gov*.

www.students.gov

Students.gov is the student gateway to the U.S. government. In addition to college and career resources, it provides information about the military, campus life, study resources, and information about the U.S. government.

www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

If students want to begin exploring their financial aid options and get an early start on the financial aid process, FAFSA4caster is for them! By using FAFSA4caster, students and families will receive an early estimate of eligibility for federal student aid. This Web site provides students with an opportunity to increase their knowledge of the financial aid process; become familiar with the various types of federal student aid that are available; and investigate other sources of aid, such as grants and scholarships.

When students are ready to apply for aid, they can easily transition from FAFSA4caster to *FAFSA on the Web*. Much of the information that students enter in the FAFSA4caster will populate the *FAFSA on the Web* application, making the experience of applying for federal student aid much easier.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

FAFSA.ed.gov is the Web site where students complete and submit the FAFSA on the Web. Students and families may also print the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet from the site. After submitting the FAFSA, students may use this site to check the status of their application, view processing results, and submit corrections.

www.pin.ed.gov

On this site, students and parents may apply for a Federal Student Aid Personal Identification Number, or FSA PIN. A FSA PIN allows students and parents to sign the FAFSA electronically. A FSA PIN will also allow students to access application information after they submit the FAFSA, sign and access other financial aid documents such as loan promissory notes, and access loan information after they leave college.

<http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/about/ac-smart/2009/state-programs-09.html>

On this Web site, counselors will find information about the programs approved by the Secretary of Education as rigorous secondary programs in each state for students graduating in 2007. Completion of a rigorous secondary program is one criterion students must meet in order to be eligible for an Academic Competitiveness Grant, or ACG.

1-800-4FED-AID/1-800-433-3243/1-800-730-8913 (TTY)

Counselors, students, and families may use these numbers to reach the Federal Student Aid Information Center. Information center staff can answer general questions about financial aid and provide students and families with information about their submitted and/or processed FAFSA.