



# Minnesota North College

A Member of Minnesota State

## FAFSA Tips

### What is a FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form completed by current and prospective students in the United States to determine eligibility for financial assistance. This is free to fill out. The FAFSA will determine how much financial assistance you can receive, which could include things like grants, scholarships, work-study, and much more.

### How do I begin the FAFSA process?

Before getting into the application, you will need:

- Yourself and a parent (if you are a dependent student) with separate emails
- Create a FSA ID for both the student and parent (if dependent) at least 5-7 days prior to completing the FAFSA (it needs time to authenticate with Social Security Administration)

**Use this link to get your FSA ID: [studentaid.gov/fsa-id](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id)**

### What information do I need?

- Minnesota North College federal school code **002355**
- 2023 federal tax return including schedules 1/2/3 (if applicable with W-2 forms)
- Social security number (be sure it is correct)
- Total balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts
- Net worth of business and investments
- Child support received
- Records of untaxed income, such as workers' compensation, and veteran's benefits
- Any other cash received
- Your driver's license number (if you have one)

### It's time to complete the FAFSA!

- Go to [www.studentaid.gov](https://www.studentaid.gov) (not ".com"). Complete the application for 2025-2026.
- Recommended deadline is July 31, 2025.
- Sign appropriately, a FAFSA without signatures is considered invalid.
- If you feel you have a special circumstance not addressed on the FAFSA, complete the FAFSA using your 2023 tax information. After the FAFSA has been processed, you can work with our Financial Aid Office in making any necessary revisions to the information.

### What if I have questions?

The financial aid office will contact you via email if needed once your FAFSA is received. Flip this page over for more information about types of aid and some things to remember. For any questions regarding the financial aid process, please email our financial aid office at [financialaid@minnesotanorth.edu](mailto:financialaid@minnesotanorth.edu) or **scan the code to view our website: [minnesotanorth.edu/admissions/financial-aid](https://minnesotanorth.edu/admissions/financial-aid)**



# Types of Aid

## Grants and Scholarships

These are gift awards that you do not have to repay! When you submit your FAFSA, you are automatically considered for the following grants: Minnesota State Grant, North Star Promise, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) or the Federal Pell Grant. Each campus also has Foundations that give out scholarships every year. Most applications open in February! There are other grant and scholarship opportunities that may require additional applications. Grants will be automatically applied to your balance.

## Work-Study

There are various on-campus jobs students can apply for! Eligibility is determined through the FAFSA. Work-study students must be enrolled in at least six credits to be eligible.

## Loans

Loans must be paid back after graduation, payments start either 6 months after graduation or last date of attendance. Eligibility for federal loans are also determined through the FAFSA. Subsidized loans are interest free while you are a student! Unsubsidized loans begin to accrue interest immediately. There are private loans students can look into if needed.

## Important Things to Remember

- You must remain in good academic standing to keep your financial aid.
- “Full-Time” is at least 12 credits per semester! Your financial aid levels will change depending on how many credits you take. You must be taking at least six credits to be eligible for loans.
- If you need to withdraw from a class during the semester, it could affect your financial aid. Always talk with your advisor, counselor, or financial aid staff.
- If you are experiencing unexpected and extraordinary circumstances, there may be additional assistance for you. Please reach out to the financial aid office!
- You must renew your FAFSA and reapply for loans every year.