

FAFSA

If you need help, contact your GEAR UP Facilitator. Complete your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov . Students and parents each need an ID number. Go to www.StudentAid.gov/fsaid

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID CHECK LIST:

- Apply for admission to your college choices.
- Apply for TWO (student and parent) FSA ID numbers
- Find out the Financial Aid priority deadline and Scholarship deadline at your college (usually available on the college web site).
- Apply for any scholarships available to you - check out college specific deadlines!
- Complete Parent and Student Tax Return Forms.
- Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov and sign with both FSA user name/password at least a week before the Financial Aid priority deadline at your college.
- Check with your college financial aid department to see if they received your information and ask the following:
 - ✓ Do you need more information to complete my financial aid package?
 - ✓ Do I need to do something else to be considered for the TEXAS Grant?
 - ✓ How do I apply for my student loan? (If you need to get one.)
 - ✓ How do I apply for a work-study job? (If you want a job on campus.)

TIPS:

- Always file the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- The College cannot download your FAFSA information if you have not applied for admission or if you did not list them on your FAFSA.
- List all possible college choices on your FAFSA (up to 10).
- Tax Forms need to be completed if possible, but do not have to be filed with the IRS in order to show them completed on the FAFSA. Be sure to save copies of all TAX forms and W-2's, you may need them for verification at the college. ***Use IRS data retrieval on the FAFSA when possible!!!***
- If both FSA ID accounts are used, the college should have FAFSA information in 3 days. If a signature page is mailed it will be approximately 7 days.
- Keep FSA ID accounts (user name/password) in a safe place. ID account information will be used every year on your FAFSA
- Be sure all information needed by financial aid is turned in by the end of **February**.