



INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

5 THINGS TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE FAFSA



If you're planning on attending college, you've probably heard about something called the FAFSA. While it may seem intimidating at first, it's something that can greatly benefit you as a student. As a bonus, it only takes students an average of about 20 minutes to fill out the FAFSA.

So what exactly do you need to know? The following pages walk you through the things you should understand in order to get you ready for quickly and successfully filing the FAFSA.



EARLY BIRD



1

WHEN TO START FILING THE FAFSA

If you're unfamiliar with the FAFSA, it means "Free Application for Federal Student Aid", and it's how millions of students qualify for grants, scholarships and loans to help pay for college each year.

Because the government recognizes that getting a higher education is extremely important, financial aid is offered to nearly every student, whether it's in the form of grants, work eligibility or student loans.

Students are able to file for aid starting Oct. 1, which helps families start the process early. Also, the FAFSA uses tax information that has already been filed with the IRS, so all the complicated tax question answers can be easily pulled in from other government databases, making FAFSA filing simple.



**INITIAL PRIORITY FILING
DEADLINE FOR FAFSA IS**

DECEMBER 1

**FIND THE FAFSA ONLINE AT
[STUDENTAID.ED.GOV/SA/FAFSA](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa)**

DID YOU KNOW?

...IWU has a student-to-faculty ratio of 14:1?

...1/6 of students on IWU's residential campus are part of the School of Nursing?

... IWU's study abroad programs have sent students to 73 different countries such as Italy, Germany and China?

... there are more than more than 82,000 people in the IWU alumni community?



2

HOW YOU'LL USE INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION

On the FAFSA, students and their parents will report their income and tax information from an earlier year.

This table provides a summary of key dates for the FAFSA submission time frame and earlier tax information.

WHEN A STUDENT IS ATTENDING COLLEGE (SCHOOL YEAR)	WHICH FAFSA TO FILE	WHEN A STUDENT CAN SUBMIT A FAFSA	WHICH YEAR'S INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION IS REQUIRED
2019-2020	2019-2020	OCT 1 2018- SEPT 30 2019	2017
2020-2021	2020-2021	OCT 1 2019- SEPT 30 2020	2018
2021-2022	2021-2022	OCT 1 2020- SEPT 30 2021	2019
2022-2023	2022-2023	OCT 1 2021- SEPT 30 2022	2020



THE BENEFITS

3

HOW TO USE THE NEW FAFSA APP

In 2018, the U.S. Department of Education introduced a new way to complete the FAFSA via a mobile app!

The myStudentAid mobile app allows students and parents to access and complete the FAFSA safely and securely from their preferred mobile device. It even allows users to customize their experience based on their specific role, making it easier for students and parents to understand and complete the form.

How to complete the FAFSA using the mobile app:

1. Download the myStudentAid mobile app
2. Select myFAFSA
3. Choose your user experience (student or parent)
4. Log in using your FSA ID and password



HERE ARE YOUR NEXT STEPS TO ATTEND IWU:

1. REQUEST INFORMATION

Visit indwes.edu/undergraduate where you can request additional information that will help you learn more about IWU.

2. VISIT CAMPUS

Come see for yourself one of America's most dynamic Christian colleges. Join us for a General Visit Day, or schedule a different day that works for you! Call the visit team at 866-468-6498.

3. APPLY

Submit your application early! IWU has a rolling deadline, meaning the Admissions team makes acceptance decisions continuously.

FAFSA

Be sure to fill out the FAFSA by April 15 to see what type of financial aid you may qualify for. Initial priority filing deadline is Nov. 30.

AWARD LETTERS

Receive a notification from IWU indicating the financial aid for which you have qualified.

DEPOSIT

Your deposit is what secures your spot on campus and allows you to register for classes.

REGISTRATION

Explore and register for the classes you will take during your first semester at IWU.

MOVE IN & ORIENTATION

Move into your residence hall earlier than upper classmen and join your fellow classmates for a weeklong orientation that will help you get acclimated to college life.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

Begin your college experience as a Wildcat!

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN



FOUNDED IN
1920



3,072

IWU - Marion



10,778

IWU - National & Global

\$0

to take the **StrengthsQuest**® assessment. Once you're accepted we'll send you the link where you can discover your unique strengths.



#1

BEST COLLEGE DORMS
IN INDIANA
niche.com



STUDENT FACULTY RATIO

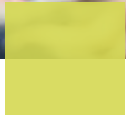
14:1

89%

of IWU graduates land full-time jobs or are accepted into graduate school.

National Association of Colleges and Employers First-Destination Survey

ENROLLMENT



4

FINANCIAL AID OFFERS

When it comes to financial aid offers, some colleges will make early offers, while others won't.

If you're thinking of transferring to another school, you might want to check out the College Scorecard at collegescorecard.ed.gov so that you can compare costs at different schools while you wait to hear back about your financial aid offers.

For federal Pell Grant information visit www.studentaid.ed.gov. Amounts can change yearly.

AWARD	% OF IWU STUDENTS RECEIVED	TOTAL AMOUNT TRANSMITTED TO IWU STUDENTS
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS	70.7%	\$ 10,950,727
PELL GRANT	29.2%	\$ 3,384,149
CHURCH MATCHING	21.9%	\$ 635,618
ACADEMIC AWARDS	21.9%	\$ 1,518,934
21 ST CENTURY SCHOLARS	4.2%	\$ 902,243

*DATA FROM THE 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR



INDIANA WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY'S

FAFSA
CODE

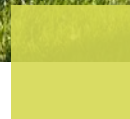
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5

SCHOOL AND TAX INFORMATION

If you don't know which schools to list on the FAFSA because you're not sure which schools you'll be applying to, don't worry. Simply list the top schools you have initial interest in applying to, and your FAFSA information will be sent to them. Later, if you decide to apply to more schools, you can log back in at fafsa.gov and add them.

You must report the tax information that the FAFSA requires. If your family's income is substantially different than it was in the reported tax year, you should speak to the financial aid office at the schools you're interested in to discuss why the income has changed, and see whether or not that changes your aid eligibility.



OTHER THINGS TO KNOW

Keep in mind that, as you fill out the FAFSA, you can reference the help text that is provided for each question. During certain hours of the day, you can even chat with a customer service representative.

Have this information ready when you begin filling out the FAFSA:

- Your federal student aid ID
- Your Social Security number
- Your tax information and records
- Your driver's license number
- Records of your assets and untaxed income
- A list of each school you're considering

On the FAFSA, make sure you list the student's and the parent's full name EXACTLY AS IT IS LISTED ON THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD. Because the FAFSA verifies against the Social Security Administration database, this is very important to remember. Differentiation between how a person's name is listed and what is on their Social Security card is one of the most common reasons a FAFSA is not processed.

WHAT IS THE FSA ID?

The FSA ID is a secure electronic signature. The FSA ID is used to sign the FAFSA, and to also access other secure federal aid websites.

For details about the FSA ID, or any other FAFSA topic, look for the 'Search FAFSA Help' in the upper right corner of the Federal Student Aid website at studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa.



Remember: You're worth the investment! Don't be overwhelmed or intimidated by applying for financial aid, especially now that you're equipped with some tips to make the process a smooth one.

Get on the path to your dreams!

INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

THE WORLD
IS WAITING



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