

BEFORE YOU START

1. Determine if you should file the FAFSA OR the WASFA.

*U.S. citizen or permanent resident? Fill out the FAFSA.
*Undocumented but meet certain residency requirements or those who do not want to file a FAFSA. File the WASFA.

2. Determine if you should file AS A DEPENDENT OR INDEPENDENT.

*The majority of High School Seniors are dependents.
*Students may be considered independent if they have special circumstances such as, been in foster care, experienced HOMELESSNESS, OR HAVE A CHILD WHO THEY FINANCIALLY SUPPORT.
*See if you qualify:
bit.ly/DEPENDS

For more information go to <https://wsac.wa.gov/apply>

HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID



01

If filing the FAFSA, create a StudentAid.gov account. Both students and their parents (if you are dependent) need to create an account before completing the FAFSA. The StudentAid.gov account is needed to log-in and sign the FAFSA. If you are completing the WASFA you will create a WASFA account.

02

Gather the Documents you Need to Apply. For example, You and your parents (if you are dependent) will need your Social Security number(s), DACA, or A-Number, your and your parents financial information, including taxes and savings.

03

Complete the FAFSA with Your Parents (if you are dependent). You should complete the FAFSA or WASFA as close to October 1st as possible to maximize your award. Please check with your colleges for deadlines.

04

Review Your Student Summary. After you submit your application, you will be provided a submission summary. It summarizes the information you provided. Make sure the information is accurate and make any corrections needed.

05

Review, Compare and Accept a Financial Aid Offer. You will receive a financial aid offer from each school, which will summarize the cost of full-time enrollment for one year plus your financial aid package. Select a package and accept your admissions offer.