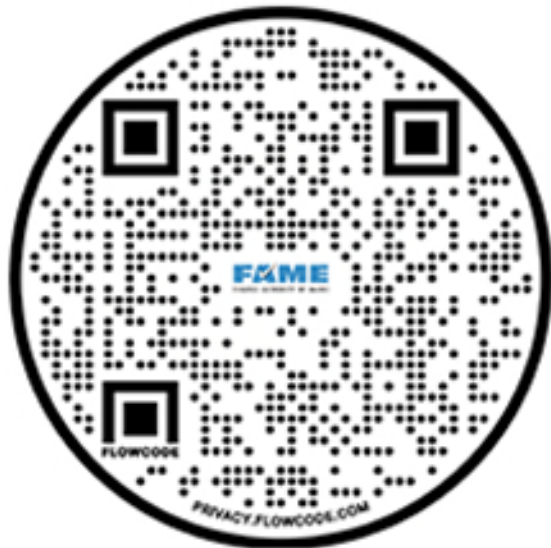


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@FAMEmaine



Supporting New Mainers: How FAME Can Help

PRESENTED BY
Floreka Malual, New Mainers Specialist



Today's Agenda

- Free Community College
- FAME's New Mainer Section
 - Getting Ready
 - Paying for College
 - Credential Evaluation
 - Foreign Credentialing Grant Program
 - New Mainer Resources
 - FAQs
 - Other Resources
- How Floreka Can Help!



Tuition-Free Community College

College

What is the free community college initiative?

- Provides two years of tuition-free community college to the Maine high school graduates in the Classes of **2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023** and was recently **extended to include** the Classes of **2024 and 2025!**
- The **Free College Scholarship** pays 100% of tuition and mandatory fees at any one of the seven colleges across the state.



Tuition-Free Community College

To qualify, students must:

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent. This includes home schooled students, and students earning a GED or Hi-SET during those years.
- Pursue an associate degree or academic credential
- Live in Maine at the time of enrollment and while enrolled in the program
- **Accept all federal and state grants**
 - Eligible students need to file a FAFSA to see if they are eligible for a Pell Grant and/or a Maine State Grant.



Tuition-Free Community College

**What if the student is not eligible for federal student aid?
Are they eligible for the Free College Scholarship?**

- Yes – students not eligible for federal student aid are eligible for the Free College Scholarship.
- Students **do not need to file a FAFSA!**
- Instead, the student needs to **contact an advisor** at the community college they plan to attend.
 - The advisor will document their circumstances and notify the appropriate campus offices.

Welcome to FAME's New Mainers Website

- Meet Floreka!
- Get Ready for College
- Paying for College
- Credential Evaluation
- Foreign Credentialing Grant Program
- Resources
- FAQ
- How Floreka Can Help!

FAMEmaine.com/newmainers

New Mainers

HOME > AFFORDING HIGHER EDUCATION > MAKE A PLAN > PLANNING TIPS FOR ... > NEW MAINERS

Make a Plan

Planning by Age

Planning Tips For ...

- Graduate School Students
- Military Families and Veterans

→ New Mainers

- Getting Ready for College
- Paying for College
- Credential Evaluation
- Foreign Credentialing Loan Program
- Resources
- FAQ

Previously Incarcerated Students

Resources For Professionals

Financial Wellness

Join

Start to Save

Pay for School

FAME Can Help New Mainers with Higher Education

We're glad you're here! In Maine and throughout the United States, higher education is one of the best ways to open the door to a better-paying job and more opportunities. But as a new Mainier, navigating higher education may include some additional steps or challenges. If you are the first in your family to attend college, the process may be unfamiliar and intimidating. If you attended college in another country, higher education in the United States might look very different.

FAME can help recent immigrants and refugees navigate higher education in the United States. FAME offers College Access and Financial Education staff working across Maine to help students reach their higher education goals. Floreka Malual is FAME's dedicated college planning advisor working with new Mainers.

Regardless of your starting point, FAME is here to provide information, resources, and personalized support. Let us know how we can help you reach your educational goals!

Meet Floreka Malual, College Planning Advisor

Floreka Malual
(she/her)
College Planning Advisor
(207) 620-3530
[Email: Floreka](mailto:Floreka)

Floreka Malual is FAME's dedicated college planning advisor working with new Mainers. At one time a new Mainier herself, Floreka spent her first nine years in Africa, living seven years in South Sudan and two years in Egypt. She is fluent in both Arabic and Dinka. In the early 2000s, Floreka and her family moved to Maine in order to have more opportunities. She attended Portland area schools and graduated from Portland High School in 2009. In 2014, she received her bachelor's degree in Health Care Studies from Husson University. As an immigrant and first-generation attending college, Floreka felt this was her calling. She joined the FAME team in 2017 as a college planning advisor and enjoys working with new Mainers exploring the college world for the first time—just as she once did.

Learn more about...

Getting Ready for College →

Knowing how higher education is organized in the U.S. can help you understand and explore your options.

Paying for College →

Whether you're an immigrant, refugee, or a new U.S. citizen, there is money available to help new Mainers pay for higher education.

Credential Evaluation →

Do you have a degree or certificate from your home country? If so, you may be able to use it in the United States for work or schooling.

Student Testimonials

WHERE TO GET HELP

Maine has a number of agencies and organizations offering a variety of programs and services to new Mainers.

Additional Resources →

New Mainer Website – Getting Ready

Getting Ready for College

HOME > AFFORDING HIGHER EDUCATION > MAKE A PLAN > PLANNING TIPS FOR ... > NEW MAINERS > GETTING READY FOR COLLEGE

Make a Plan

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Previously Incarcerated Students

Resources For Professionals

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Need Help?

Contact Floreka Manual

College Planning Advisor
 (207) 620-3530

[Email Floreka](#)



Getting Ready for College

You may be the first person in your family to attend college or may have attended college in a different country, but are finding the options and processes are very different in the United States. Regardless of your starting point, here are a few things to keep in mind.

Types of Institutions

There are many types of colleges and universities in the United States. Each has its own purpose and funding and certain schools may meet your needs better than others.

Two-Year versus Four-Year Colleges

Two-year colleges: The most common two-year schools are community colleges. These schools typically offer two pathways: programs that are more applied and career-training focused that award certificates or associate degrees, or programs that are strictly academic and prepare students to transfer to a four-year school. Community colleges are public schools but there are also private two-year schools.

Four-year colleges and universities: These schools typically offer programs that take four years of full-time enrollment to complete and award bachelor's degrees (though some also offer associate degrees). There are both public and private colleges and universities.

Public versus Private Colleges

Public colleges: These schools, often referred to as state schools, are supported in part by public funding. As a result, tuition rates are typically lower for residents of that state than for students from out-of-state.

Private colleges: These schools are privately funded and tuition rates are the same for in-state versus out-of-state students.

Admissions Criteria

Each college uses its own criteria when deciding whether or not to offer admission to a student. Most schools are going to ask for grades from current or previous schools, and some will also ask for SAT or ACT scores. Depending on a student's major, if English is a second language, students may be asked to take the TOEFL test. Check with the college's admissions office or website to learn more about that school's admissions criteria.

Special Programs to Support College-Going

There are many federal programs designed to help first-generation college students and/or those from low-income families prepare for college. Programs such as Upward Bound, TRIO, and GEAR UP are often available through high schools and local colleges and universities.

Ready to take the next step?

Visit our [Paying for College](#) page for helpful tips on affording higher education.

College Going Information

Higher education is structured very differently in the U.S. than in other countries.

There are great programs to support college going students!

- Talent Search
- Upward Bound
- Student Support Services

Paying for College

HOME > AFFORDING HIGHER EDUCATION > MAKE A PLAN > PLANNING TIPS FOR ... > NEW MAINERS > PAYING FOR COLLEGE

Make a Plan

Planning by Age

Planning Tips For ...

Graduate School Students

Military Families and Veterans

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Getting Ready for College

→ **Paying for College**

Credential Evaluation

Foreign Credentialing Loan Program

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FAQ

Previously Incarcerated Students

Resources For Professionals

Financial Wellness

Join

Start to Save

Pay for School



Paying for College

Whether you're an immigrant, refugee, or a new U.S. citizen, there is money available to help new Mainers pay for higher education. However, where the money comes from largely depends on whether or not you are eligible for federal student aid.

Are You Eligible for Federal Student Aid?

To be eligible for federal student aid, you must be a U.S. citizen OR an eligible noncitizen. If you already know you're eligible for federal student aid, your next step is to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

If you already know you're eligible for federal student aid, your next step is to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Yes, I'm eligible. [↗](#)

Generally, you are *not* eligible for federal student aid if:

- You have been granted DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) status.
- You have only a "Notice of Approval to Apply for Permanent Residence" (I-171 or I-464).
- You are in the U.S. on an F-1 or F-2 nonimmigrant student visa, or on a J-1 or J-2 nonimmigrant exchange visitor visa.
- You hold a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations).

If you know you are not eligible for federal student aid at this time, you still have options.

No, I'm not eligible at this time. [↗](#)

Not sure if you're eligible?

Helpful Tools

- Determining Eligibility for Federal Student Aid
- Tracking Status of Immigration Application
- Paying for Higher Education Video
- Scholarships for New Mainers

Not sure if you're eligible?

If you're not sure of your eligibility, you can use our interactive eligibility questionnaire to help you determine your status:

Interactive Eligibility Questionnaire:

1.) Are you a US Citizen?

- Yes
 No

Track Your Case Status Online

Are you waiting to hear back about your case status? You can track the status of an immigration application, petition, or request with the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services' [online case status tool](#).

VIDEO: Paying for Higher Education for New Mainers



Are you a new Mainer wondering how you'll pay for your higher education? This video will tell you what you need to know, guide you through options for paying for college, and help you navigate the New Mainers section of the FAME website.

Scholarships for New Mainers

Scholarships provide money, often from private institutions or community organizations, that you will not need to repay. If you are not eligible for federal or state financial aid, you may be able to pay for some of your higher education expenses using scholarships.



New Mainer Website – Eligible for FSA

YES, I'm eligible for federal student aid.

If you are a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen, the next step is to file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

To learn more about how to file a FAFSA, visit [FAME's FAFSA section](#) or [watch this short video \(in Arabic\)](#). If you are an eligible noncitizen, you will need to enter your eight or nine-digit Alien Registration Number (ARN) on the FAFSA.

If your parent does not have a Social Security Number, enter all zeros (e.g., 000000000) in the Social Security Number question.

If one or more of your parents live outside the United States, learn more about how to complete the FAFSA. If you are considered a [dependent student](#), you typically need to provide parent information. Your parents' specific situation will determine whose information is required, so review the below information carefully:

- If your parents are married and one parent lives outside of the United States, both parents' information will be needed. Parents will indicate that they are "Married filing separately." The U.S.-residing parent will include their requested tax information. The international parent will provide their income and asset information, converted into U.S. dollars, and indicate "Foreign Country" and "Foreign Tax Return" where appropriate.
- If your parents are not legally married or are divorced, information will be required only for the parent you reside with in the United States.
- If both parents reside outside the United States but continue to provide most of your financial support, you will provide information for both parents. Your parents will indicate "Foreign Country" and "Foreign Tax Return" where appropriate.

Important FSA ID Information

One of the first steps when filing a FAFSA is to create an FSA ID. The FSA ID is a username and password you will use to access and sign your FAFSA. All students need an FSA ID and one parent of a dependent student will also need his or her own FSA ID to sign the FAFSA.

The FSA ID is tied to your Social Security Number. Be sure to write down all of the information used to create an FSA ID. Use FAME's [FSA ID Information Tracking Sheet](#) to keep track of all FSA ID information.

For more information on creating an FSA ID, watch this [short video](#). If you speak Arabic, we've created this video to help with creating and retrieving FSA IDs: [Creating an FSA ID \(in Arabic\)](#).

College Pathways Worksheet

FAME's College Pathways Worksheet will help keep your planning on track as you work through the financial aid and scholarships processes and pursue other options to pay for college.

[Download College Pathways Worksheet](#) ↗

Have you had a change in citizenship status?

If your status has changed from an eligible noncitizen to a U.S. citizen, contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) to update your status. If you do not update your citizenship status with the SSA, it could delay your student financial aid. To contact the SSA call 1-800-772-1213 or visit the Social Security Administration's website at [ssa.gov](#).



New Mainer Website – Unsure of Eligibility?

Not sure if you're eligible?

If you're not sure of your eligibility, you can use our interactive eligibility questionnaire to help you determine your status:

Interactive Eligibility Questionnaire:

1.) Are you a US Citizen?

- Yes
 No

You indicated you are not a U.S. citizen, but you may be an eligible noncitizen. We'll ask a few more questions to help you find out.

2.) Are you are a U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island)?

- Yes
 No

3.) Are you a U.S. permanent resident with a Form I-551, I-151, or I-551C (Permanent Resident Card, Resident Alien Card, or Alien Registration Receipt Card), also known as a "green card"?

[View examples](#)

- Yes
 No

4.) Do you have an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following statuses?

- Refugee
 - Asylum granted
 - Cuban-Haitian Entrant
 - "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
 - "Parolee" (you must be paroled for at least one year, and you must be able to provide evidence from the USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose with the intention of becoming a U.S. citizen or permanent resident).
- Yes
 No

Not sure if eligible for
Federal Student Aid?
Use this tool!

5.) Do you hold a T nonimmigrant status ("T-visa") (for victims of human trafficking) or does your parent hold a T-1 nonimmigrant status?

- Yes
 No

6.) Are you a "battered immigrant-qualified alien" who is a victim of abuse by your citizen or permanent-resident spouse, or are you the child of a person designated as such under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)?

- Yes
 No

7.) Are you a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau?

- Yes
 No

Based on your answers, it appears you're not eligible for federal financial aid at this time, but you still have some options.

Check out our resources and next steps for ineligible students.

[Resources & Next Steps →](#)

Not Eligible for Federal Student Aid

- School Choice
- Resources to Explore
- Pay As You Go
- Employer Educations Benefits

NO, I'm not eligible for federal student aid at this time.

Even if you are not eligible for federal student aid, other options do exist. Consider the following:

School Choice

Attend a school that has policies and funding dedicated to supporting students who are not eligible for federal student aid funds. Here are some [questions to ask](#) when researching schools.

If the school you are planning to attend offers funding to DACA students or other students who are not eligible for federal student aid, ask them how to apply for those funds. In some cases, and if you have a Social Security Number, the school may want you to complete a FAFSA.

Resources to Explore

- [USM's Promise Scholarship](#) is open to asylum seekers under certain circumstances. [Contact Daniel Barton](#) for more information.
- The [Adult Learner Scholarship](#) is for nontraditional students and supports a range of training, including two- and four-year degrees, certificates, and other non-degree programs.
- Learn more about [admission policies, financial aid, and scholarships](#) for undocumented students.
- Additionally, scholarships are available to students in many different situations, including asylum seekers or others who are ineligible for federal student aid. FAME has compiled a [list of scholarships new Mainers may be eligible for](#).

Pay As You Go

Pay as you go by attending school part-time, ideally with the help of [scholarships](#), payment plans, and possible limited funding from the school. Most schools have payment plans that allow you to spread the cost of your course(s) over several payments throughout a semester or school year, making paying for classes easier to manage.

Employer Education Benefits

[Work for an employer](#) that provides education assistance for their employees. Some employers will cover a portion of your tuition or help support your educational goals in other ways.

Start by contacting your employer's Human Resources office and asking them [these questions about employer education benefits](#).



New Mainer Website – Paying for College

Scholarships

- Local high school or guidance office
- College financial aid office
- Employer/parent employer
- Faith based institutions
- Local service organization

[Scholarship Tracking Spreadsheet \(.xlsx\) →](#)

We regularly review the scholarships we share to make sure they are up to date. However, scholarship criteria, deadlines, and availability can change without our knowledge. If you find a scholarship that is out of date, please let us know.

Scholarship	Amount	Deadline	Eligibility	Course of Study
American Federation of Ramallah Palestine	\$8,000	May 31	Palestinian and Palestinian American students	Any
American Legion Children and Youth Scholarship	\$500	May 1	Must be a Maine resident	Any
Asian Pacific Fund	\$1,000-\$20,000	See website	Must plan to be enrolled full-time in the fall. Minimum GPA of 3.0. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident unless otherwise stated.	Any
Avesta Housing Scholarship	\$1,000	May 9	Avesta residents who are enrolling in a post-secondary program. Eligible programs include college, trade school, and certificate programs.	Any
Ayn Rand Essay Contests	Varies	See website	Offers three different worldwide essay contests: Anthem (for 8th-12th grade students); Fountainhead (for 11th & 12th grade students), and Atlas Shrugged (for 12th grade, college, and graduate students).	Any
Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund	up to \$10,000	April 1	Available to applicants who demonstrate activism in the struggle to achieve civil rights, economic justice, international solidarity, and/or other progressive causes.	Any



Common Types of Evaluations

- Course-by-Course Credential Evaluation
- Educational Credential Evaluation
- Professional Work Experience Evaluation

New Mainer Website – Credential Evaluation

Credential and Professional Work Experience Evaluations

Do you have a degree or certificate from your home country? What about professional work experience earned before coming to the U.S.? If so, you may be able to use your credential or work experience in the United States for work or schooling.

If you have a degree or certificate, a credential evaluation can be completed. In a credential evaluation, a third party assesses your academic or skill-related credentials earned outside the U.S. and compares them to those earned in the U.S. If you have professional work experience, that experience can be evaluated in combination with your academic experience to see whether they meet the equivalent of a bachelor's degree. The type of evaluation needed depends on your plans and goals.

Three Common Types of Evaluations

Course-by-Course Credential Evaluation

This type of evaluation is needed for college admissions and may also be used for professional licensing and certification. This evaluation will include a description of your courses, credit hours, grades, degrees, and overall academic performance in terms of the U.S. educational system.

Educational Credential Evaluation

This is a document-by-document evaluation used in employment and immigration matters. It is also used for university admission when transfer credit is not expected. This option lists the previous institutions you've attended and the credentials you've earned including their U.S. equivalent degree.

Professional Work Experience Evaluation

A professional work experience evaluation assesses your work and academic history in order to determine if it meets the bachelor's degree equivalency. This type of evaluation is mainly for immigration purposes, most commonly for individuals applying for a H-1B visa.

New Mainer Website – Credential Evaluation

Evaluation Tips

- Be sure the evaluation service is a member of the **National Association of Credential Evaluation Services**
- Questions or more support needed? Contact the **New Mainers Resource Center!**

Considerations Before Having a Degree Evaluated

Is credential evaluation necessary?

The value of a professional credential is highly job- and field-specific. In some fields, a credential is a basic requirement. In others, it is a “nice to have” that is not necessary for advancement. It is important to ask questions and understand which credentials are truly required in an individual’s field.

Who should I talk to before pursuing an evaluation?

You’ll want to talk to one of the following based on your plans and what you want to pursue:

- **Higher Education**

Schools have different requirements for credential evaluation. Start by talking with the school you want to attend. The school’s admissions office or international students’ office should be able to offer more information about their requirements.

- **Work**

It may not be necessary to obtain a credential evaluation. Talk to employers and people in your industry to learn more about their requirements. Make sure your resumé clearly states whether you have a credential evaluation.

- **Professional Licensing**

License requirements vary from state to state. Before you have your degree or certificate reviewed for a professional license, confirm the requirements of the professional board in your state.

Where can I find a reputable credential evaluation service?

There are unreliable and fraudulent services that advertise widely on the web. It is important to research credential evaluation companies to ensure they are reputable and ethical. One useful indicator is whether the company is a member of the [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services](#). For example, the University of Southern Maine only accepts evaluations that are completed by an agency that is a current member of NACES.

[The New Mainers Resource Center](#) at Portland Adult Education provides support to immigrants seeking to have credential translation and evaluation. For more information, contact:

New Mainers Resource Center

14 Locust Street
Portland, ME 04101
Tel: 207-874-8155
Fax: 207-773-0151

New Mainer Website – Foreign Credentialing Grant

Foreign Credentialing Grant

- Covers costs associated with obtaining a foreign credential evaluation
- Maximum grant of \$700
- Open to any Maine resident with a foreign credential that needs to be evaluated
- Funds are limited – first come, first served

Foreign Credentialing Grant Program

The Foreign Credentialing Grant Program (Foreign Credentialing Grant) provides grants to assist eligible Maine residents with certain costs associated with obtaining a foreign credential evaluation in order to access higher education, employment, or professional certification in the U.S.

Funds are limited and grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be accepted as long as funds are available. The maximum grant award is \$700 or the total credential evaluation expense, whichever is less.

This program, administered by FAME in partnership with the Maine Community Foundation, is separate and distinct from the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program administered by FAME.

How Do I Apply?

1. Before starting the application, download and review the [application guidelines and checklist](#).
2. The application for the Foreign Credentialing Grant Program is online only. *You will not be able to save an application in progress and return to it later*—once you begin the application, you'll need to complete it. Before you begin, have all of the documents required to complete your application in a format ready to upload (e.g., photo, scan, PDF):
 - A copy of your valid government issued photo identification (e.g., U.S. driver's license, passport, permanent resident card);
 - Documentation of the expense the grant will be used to cover (e.g., receipt, invoice, screen shot)
3. The program application link below will direct you to FAME's online application system.
4. Complete and submit the online application along with all of the required documents listed above. Applications submitted without all of the required documents will be considered incomplete.

[Foreign Credentialing Grant Application](#) ↗



New Mainer Website – Organizational Resources

- Gateway Community Services
- Hope Acts
- Learning Works
- Maine Youth Action Network
- My Place Teen Center
- New Mainers Resource Center
- Portland Adult Education (PAE)
- Portland Public Schools: Multilingual and Multicultural Center
- Prosperity Maine
- The Root Cellar
- Tree Street Youth
- Youth & Community Engagement



New Mainer Website – FAQ

FAFSA Related Questions and Answer:

- Am I eligible to receive federal student aid?
- As an eligible noncitizen, is there any additional information I need to provide when completing the FAFSA?
- As an undocumented student or DACA student, can I file the FAFSA?
- As an eligible noncitizen, what will I need to complete the FAFSA?
- One or both of my parents live outside of the United States. Do I need to include their financial information?
- How do you represent income from a foreign tax return?



How Floreka Can Help!

- One-on-one appointments
- Classroom presentations
- College application assistance
- Scholarship application assistance
- Credential evaluation grant application help
- Navigating resources and more



Floreka Malual

(she/her)


New Mainer Specialist

(207) 620-3530


[Email Floreka](#)



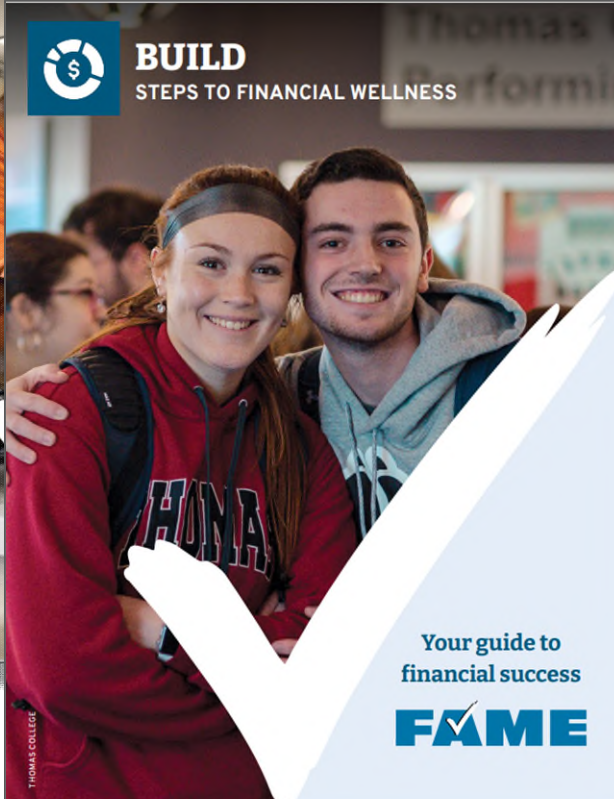
PLAN
TOOLS TO HELP YOU
PURSUE EDUCATION AFTER HIGH SCHOOL




PAY
TIPS TO AFFORD HIGHER
EDUCATION



BUILD
STEPS TO FINANCIAL WELLNESS



**Your guide to
financial success**




FREE MONEY FOR COLLEGE

(seriously)

There's a new FAFSA coming

There'll be fewer questions, and more straight money to help pay for education and other costs. Get your FAFSA filed as soon as possible in December. (Watch for the exact date!) with your FAFSA? FAME's FAFSA and financial aid.

YOU MIGHT BE WONDERING...

What's a FAFSA?
The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Colleges and universities use this application to determine your financial aid eligibility.

Really? Free money?
The FAFSA is used by all schools to offer federal and state financial aid, including grants and scholarships (FFEL), and independent loans. Most schools also use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their own grants and scholarships. Many organizations also require a FAFSA before awarding scholarships.



FAFSA SIMPLIFICATION IS COMING! 2024-2025 "Better FAFSA" delayed until December

The new Better FAFSA, as it's being referred to by Federal Student Aid, is being completely overhauled and will include many new terms and processes. To get started, below are a few key concepts and process changes that are critical to helping get students and families prepared to file.



For more information, scan QR code or visit FAMEmaine.com/FAFSA Simplification.

Contributors

A CONTRIBUTOR IS ANYONE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE CONSENT ON THE FAFSA. Possible contributors are the student, the parent, the other parent, and the student's spouse.

- The student is always a contributor.
- For dependent students, one parent will always be a contributor; the other parent will also be a contributor if parents are married but don't file taxes jointly or if parents aren't married but live together.
- The student's spouse will only be a contributor if taxes aren't filed jointly.

CONTRIBUTOR INVITATION: The student will need to identify contributors and invite them to complete their section of the FAFSA. When completing the parent invite, the student must provide the parent's legal name, date of birth, Social Security Number, and email address.

CONTRIBUTOR CONSENT: Contributors must provide consent (via check box) for the Department of Education to obtain and use their Federal Tax Information (FTI) to determine eligibility for federal student aid. All contributors must consent, even if they do not file taxes. If a contributor does not provide consent, the student will be ineligible for federal student aid.

FSA ID Changes

A CONTRIBUTOR MUST HAVE A FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FSA) ID that has been matched with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to access their section of the FAFSA. Because the match with SSA is not instantaneous and can take up to one week, individuals should plan to obtain an FSA ID at least one week prior to completing the FAFSA. It will not be possible to obtain an FSA ID and complete the FAFSA in one sitting, nor will it be possible to access a FAFSA using student's demographic information.

Roles-Based

THE ON-LINE FAFSA APPLICATION WILL BE ROLES-BASED and include separate student and parent segments. Students will log into the student section of the FAFSA with their FSA ID and parent(s) will log into the parent section with their FSA ID. The student won't be able to see parent questions and the parent won't be able to see student questions.



Thinking about going to college, university, or technical school?
YOU CAN DO IT.

Finance Authority
recent immigrants
higher education

HELP YOU
REACH YOUR GOAL!



All students should file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), as it opens the door to many types and sources of financial aid, including funds that don't have to be repaid. All schools use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for federal and state financial aid, and many schools use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their institutional financial aid. The FAFSA must be completed for each school year.

FAFSA Simplification for 2024-2025

Whether you're an education professional who helps students with their FAFSAs or you're a student who's filed a FAFSA in a previous academic year, you'll notice some significant changes with the 2024-25 FAFSA. The 2024-2025 FAFSA, referred to as "Better FAFSA, Better Future" by Federal Student Aid (FSA), is being completely revised and simplified. There will be fewer questions and it will be easier to complete.

[Learn More →](#)

Filing the FAFSA

Details related to filing the 2023-2024 FAFSA are slightly different from those for the 2024-2025 FAFSA due to FAFSA Simplification.

Use the links below to access instructions for the FAFSA you'll be filing.

Filing the 2023-24 FAFSA

The 2023-24 FAFSA became available on October 1, 2022. It's always a good idea to file as soon as possible, but it's not too late to file for the 2023-24 school year.

[Filing the 2023-24 FAFSA →](#)

Filing the 2024-25 FAFSA

While the FAFSA is normally available each year on October 1, the 2024-2025 FAFSA will be delayed. Due to the significant overhaul to the FAFSA form and process, *the 2024-25 FAFSA will be released in December of 2023.*

[Filing the 2024-25 FAFSA →](#)

FAME Resources

Financial Aid Resources

FAME Website:

FAMEmaine.com/FAFSA

Links to:

- FAFSA Simplification Filing the 2023-2024 FAFSA
- Filing the 2024-2025 FAFSA



Questions?



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