

Filling out the FAFSA 2009-2010 Tips Sheet

Getting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

1. On the Web- www.fafsa.ed.gov MOST RECOMMENDED
2. Paper Form- have to order from the Department of Education at 1-800-4 FED AID
3. PDF FAFSA- can download from the website www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov

State Deadlines:

-They say September 2008- WE RECOMMEND March 1st. Federal and State monies will run out. It is first come, first serve.

STEP ONE:

- This is all the information on the *Student*.
- #2 Make sure we use your first name that is on your Social Security Card!
- #13 Use the email account that you check most often. Check to make sure that you do not have filters on your email that will send all correspondence to the "Junk Mail Folder".
- #16 This is the marital status of the student. You will not be able to change this later.
- #22 Financial Aid process will stop if you are male and do not register with the Selective Service by the age of 18.
- #23 Students will answer NO to this question. It reads "if you were convicted WHILE receiving federal student aid". HS students have not received any aid as of yet.
- #28 Enter "0" even if you have taken classes at Waubonsee Community College. You are still working on your 1st year of undergraduate classes.
- #30 Enter "1" for full time. You need to be a full time student to qualify for loans.
- #31 Enter "3" this is the recommended answer to maximize your best chance of aid. Do this even if you don't want work-study- you can always "decline" it later when you get your award letter.

STEP TWO:

- This is also information on the *Student*.
- #33 -#47 Be as truthful on these questions. They may require you to send copies of your tax forms at a later time- this is called VERIFICATION. Don't send them unless you are asked.
- #41 Use balances that would be on bank statements after all of the bills for the month have been paid.

- #46 This is for monies going OUT of the household by the STUDENT not Parent.
- #47 This is for monies coming IN to the household by the STUDENT not Parent.

STEP THREE:

- This information on the student determines if the student is INDEPENDENT or DEPENDENT. If all questions are “NO” then fill out step four.

STEP FOUR:

- This is all information on the Parent
- #61 Status as of the date that you are fill out the FAFSA.
- #63 and #67 Enter “000-00-0000” if parents don’t have a SSN.
- #64 and #68 You report on the household where the student spends more than 50% of the time. If there are step-parents in that household- you have to report their information also.
- #86- #90 Be as truthful on these questions. They may require you to send copies of your tax forms at a later time- this is called VERIFICATION. Don’t send them unless you are asked.
- #91 Use balances that would be on bank statements after all of the bills for the month have been paid.

STEP FIVE:

- Only answer these questions if you answered “Yes” to any in STEP THREE.

STEP SIX:

- #104 Make sure that you list Illinois Colleges first to be eligible for State Federal Aid.