

Completing the FAFSA

Presented by the Geneva College
Financial Aid Office



What You Will Learn

- **Types and sources of financial aid**
- **How to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
- **Answers to common questions**



Types of Financial Aid

- **Gift Aid** - Grants or scholarships that do not need to be repaid
- **Work** - Money earned by the student as payment for a job on campus
- **Loans** - Borrowed money to be paid back, usually with interest



Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal government
- State government
- Geneva College
- Private organizations, companies, foundations, and employers



How to Apply for Financial Aid?

- File the FAFSA
 - This is the only way to be considered for need-based federal, state and Geneva aid
 - Geneva's priority filing date is March 15
- Usually the FAFSA is the only application needed for federal, state and Geneva aid
- Information is sent to your state grant agency
- Private scholarships may have other applications



FAFSA on the Web

- Web site: www.fafsa.gov
 - Avoid fafsa.com
- FAFSA on the Web Worksheet (FOTW):
 - Available on the FAFSA website
 - Used as “pre-application” worksheet
 - Questions follow order of FAFSA on the Web



FAFSA on the Web

Good reasons to file electronically:

- Built-in edits to prevent costly errors
- Skip-logic allows student and/or parent to skip unnecessary questions
- More timely submission of original application and any necessary corrections
- More detailed instructions and “help” for common questions
- Ability to check application status on-line
- Simplified application process in the future



Pin Number

- Web site: www.pin.ed.gov
- Can request PIN before January 1, 2011
- Student and one parent
- Sign FAFSA electronically
- Not required, but speeds processing
- May be used by students and parents throughout the aid process, including subsequent school years



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Federal Student Aid PIN website. At the top left is the Department of Education logo with the text "START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID". To the right is the "Federal Student Aid PIN" logo. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for "PIN Home", "Help", "Contact Us", "FAQs", and "About Us". The main content area features a large green heading "Welcome to the Federal Student Aid PIN Web site" with a blue dot pattern to the right. Below this heading is a blue box with the text "Apply for a PIN" and "The PIN Application is for students and parents to apply for a new Federal Student Aid PIN." with an "APPLY NOW" button. To the left of the main content is a vertical menu with links: "Apply For A PIN", "Check PIN Status", "Request A Duplicate PIN", "Change My PIN", "Update My Personal Information", "Disable My PIN", "Reestablish My PIN", and "Activate My PIN". Below the menu is a "Helpful Links" section with two links: "Student Aid on the Web" and "Links to Federal Student Aid Electronic Services".

START HERE
GO FURTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Federal Student Aid PIN

PIN Home Help Contact Us FAQs About Us

Apply For A PIN
Check PIN Status
Request A Duplicate PIN
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Reestablish My PIN
Activate My PIN

Helpful Links

[Student Aid on the Web](#)
Information you will need to receive aid for school. [Go »](#)

[Links to Federal Student Aid Electronic Services](#)

Welcome to the Federal Student Aid
PIN Web site

This Web site is your source of information for the Federal Student Aid PIN.

Your PIN can be used each year to electronically apply for federal student aid and to access your U.S. Department of Education records online. If you receive a PIN, you agree to not disclose or share your PIN with anyone. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records. You should never give your PIN to anyone, including commercial services that offer to help you complete your FAFSA. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place.

Apply for a PIN

The PIN Application is for students and parents to apply for a new Federal Student Aid PIN.

APPLY NOW

Forms to Collect Before Starting

- Social Security Card
- Driver's license
- W-2 forms
- 2010 U.S. income tax return (if completed)
- Records of child support paid
- Amount of investments
- Value of Business
- Bank statements



FOTW Worksheet: Section 1 (student)

General student information:

- Name
 - Use your name as it appears on your social security card
- Social Security Number
 - Is the number the same as on the card?
- Mistakes will need to be corrected and will delay processing



FOTW Worksheet: Section 1 (student)

General student information:

- Citizenship
- Marital status – (student)
 - As of the date the FAFSA is signed
- Selective Service registration status
 - Males between 18 and 25 need to be registered



FOTW Worksheet: Section 1 (student)

General student information:

- Drug conviction status
 - There are consequences for having a drug conviction while receiving federal student aid
- Parents' educational background
 - This does not affect eligibility for financial aid



FOTW Worksheet: Section 2 (student)

Student's dependency status:

- If no boxes are checked, student is dependent
- If any box is checked, student is independent



FOTW Worksheet: Section 3 (parent)

Who is a Parent?

- Biological or adoptive
- Not a grandparent unless they adopted student
- Divorced parents – parent student lives with
- Recently deceased parent – only surviving parent
- Remarried parent – count stepparent also



FOTW Worksheet: Section 3 (parent)

Who is included in parent's household?

- Include if parent is providing at least 50% of support during the 2011-12 school year

Who is included in parent's number in college

- Students supported by the parent and enrolled at least ½ time



FOTW Worksheet: Section 3 (parent)

Financial data for parents of dependent students:

- Tax filing status
- Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for 2010
 - Use appropriate line on US income tax return
- Income Tax Paid
 - Use appropriate line on US income tax return
- Income earned from work
 - From W-2 or US income tax return



FOTW Worksheet: Section 3 (parent)

Financial data for parents of dependent students:

- Receipt of benefits from certain federal means-tested programs
 - Food stamps, SSI, TANF or WIC
- Additional financial information
 - Check the list
- Untaxed income
 - Check the list



FOTW Worksheet: Section 4 (student)

Financial data for student (and spouse):

- Tax filing status
- Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for 2010
 - Use appropriate line on US income tax return
- Income Tax Paid
 - Use appropriate line on US income tax return
- Income earned from work
 - From W-2 or US income tax return



FOTW Worksheet: Section 4 (student)

Financial data for student (and spouse):

- Receipt of benefits from certain federal means-tested programs
 - Food stamps, SSI, TANF or WIC
- Additional financial information
 - Check the list
- Untaxed income
 - Check the list



Signatures

- Required
 - Student
 - One parent (dependent students)
- Ways to sign (use one only)
 - Electronic using PIN
 - Print and sign signature page and mail
 - Sign and mail paper FAFSA



Submit Info and Confirmation

- Be certain to submit data
- Print confirmation page
 - Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
 - Notice Data Release Number (DRN)
- Do you need to file for another child?
- PA resident? Complete state grant info?



Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Social Security number incorrect
- Included divorced/deceased parental information
- Forgot income earned by stepparent
- Do not use cents
- Forgot untaxed income
- Wrong amount of U.S. income taxes paid
- Household size incorrect
- Number of household members in college incorrect
- Enter zero. Do not leave blanks.



FAFSA Processing Results

- If email address is on FAFSA, CPS notifies student of FAFSA processing results by:
 - E-mail notification containing a direct link to student's on-line SAR if student's e-mail was provided on paper or electronic FAFSA
- Student with PIN may view SAR on-line at www.fafsa.gov



FAFSA Processing Results

If no email address on FAFSA, Central Processing System (CPS) notifies student of FAFSA processing results by:

- Paper Student Aid Report (SAR) if paper FAFSA was filed
- SAR Acknowledgment if filed FAFSA on the Web



FAFSA Processing Results

- Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) sent to colleges listed on FAFSA approximately 3 to 14 days after FAFSA submitted
- College reviews ISIR
 - May request additional documentation, such as copies of federal tax returns



Student Aid Report

- Review data for accuracy
- Update estimated information when actual figures are available



Making Corrections

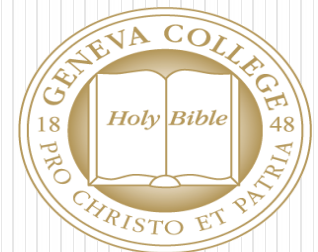
If necessary, corrections to FAFSA data may be made by:

- Using FAFSA on the Web (www.fafsa.gov) if student has a PIN;
- Updating paper Student Aid Report
- In some cases, submitting documentation to the college's financial aid office



Special Circumstances

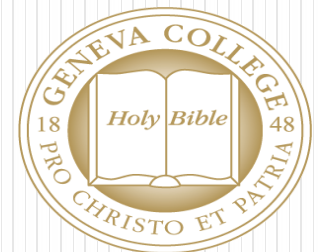
- You cannot report special circumstances on the FAFSA
- Send explanation to financial aid office at Geneva
Financial Aid Office
Geneva College
3200 College Ave
Beaver Falls PA 15010



Special Circumstances

Geneva reviews special circumstances

- Request additional documentation
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



Special Circumstances - examples

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information



What Happens Next?

- Geneva College receives your FAFSA results electronically
- After the student is accepted, we create a financial aid award including any federal, state and institutional funds for which the student is eligible
- Student needs to sign and return one copy of award
- Student needs to send an admission's deposit to secure their place



Questions?

- If you have questions, you may contact either your admission counselor or the Financial Aid Office at financialaid@geneva.edu
- You can call us at 724.847.6530

