

# 2021-2022 Financial Aid Checklist

## Get Prepped

- Review the Rutgers Financial Aid website: [financialaid.rutgers.edu](https://financialaid.rutgers.edu)
- Review the Federal Student Aid website to learn more about the types of aid available, including grants, scholarships, federal work study, and loans: [studentaid.ed.gov](https://studentaid.ed.gov)
- If you reside in New Jersey, review information about available state aid [hesaa.org](https://hesaa.org). Remember to pay close attention to all state aid application deadlines.
- Research and apply for outside scholarship awards that can help pay for your education. Resources are available on the Rutgers Financial Aid website as well as many online scholarship search engines.

## Complete the FAFSA® by December 1, 2020

- To apply for federal financial aid for Fall 2021 and/or Spring 2022, students must complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA® at [FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)
- You will need a Federal Student Aid ID to apply. You may register for an FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov).
  - If you have already completed a FAFSA® for another school, click on “Make a Correction to a Processed FAFSA®” and add Rutgers’ school code (002629).
- Collect the necessary documents in order to complete the 2021- 2022 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). See “What Information Do I Need to Complete the FAFSA®?” for more information.
- After your 2021-2022 FAFSA® is received, Rutgers may request additional documentation to verify your eligibility and/or financial data.

## Review Your Offer Letter

- Financial offer letters will be issued in February 2021 for students that filed their FAFSA® by December 1. Offer letters are then issued on a rolling basis, approximately 2-3 weeks after completing the FAFSA®.
- Review your offer letter carefully to determine the amounts and types of aid you have been awarded, and assess whether additional financial resources will be necessary to pay for school.
- Complete additional fund-specific requirements:
  - Federal Work-Study (FWS) – Review the relevant information and program requirements at [financialaid.rutgers.edu/student-work](https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/student-work).
  - Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized loans – Complete Entrance Counseling and the Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov).
- Review additional options for paying your term bill at [financialaid.rutgers.edu/funding](https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/funding).

## We're Here to Help!

Paying for college may seem like a challenge, but the Office of Financial Aid is here to help guide you through the process. Follow this checklist to develop a financial plan for Rutgers University– New Brunswick.



## Why Complete a FAFSA®?

To apply for federal financial aid, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). Students who complete and submit the FAFSA®, including all required signatures, prior to December 1 are considered to have filed by the priority deadline. If any further documentation is required to determine your eligibility, you will be notified via email. Once we have determined your eligibility and your file is complete, we can then send you a financial offer letter with instructions to secure your funding for the upcoming year. Financial offer letters will be issued starting in February 2021.

## What Information Do I Need to Complete the FAFSA®?

In order to complete your 2021-2022 FAFSA®, you may need the following information:

- Social Security Card and driver's license (or state ID)
- If you are not a US citizen, documentation of your eligible non-citizen status
- 2019 income and tax information
  - You will need 2019 income and tax information to complete your 2021-2022 FAFSA®. If you are a dependent student, you will need income and tax records for yourself as well as your parent(s)/guardian(s). If you are an independent student, you will need income and tax records for yourself as well as your spouse (if married). If you are not sure whether you are dependent or independent, visit [studentaid.gov/dependency](https://studentaid.gov/dependency) for guidance.

## What if I am not Eligible to Complete the FAFSA®?

You must be a US citizen, permanent resident, or other eligible status in order to complete the FAFSA® and receive Federal Student Aid. Eligibility requirements for FSA programs can be reviewed at [financialaid.rutgers.edu/eligibility/citizenship-status](https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/eligibility/citizenship-status). If you are not eligible to complete the FAFSA®, you may review your funding options at [financialaid.rutgers.edu/funding](https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/funding).

Students who are New Jersey residents and whose immigration status falls under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy may be eligible to complete the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application in order to receive New Jersey state aid. For more information, please visit [www.hesaa.org](https://www.hesaa.org).

**The priority deadline for filing the 2021-2022 FAFSA® is December 1, 2020. Complete your 2021-2022 FAFSA® by the deadline in order to be eligible for campus-based aid.**

## NEW! MyStudentAid Mobile App

Eligible students can now complete the FAFSA® via the MyStudentAid mobile application. Other features of the app include the ability to electronically complete loan counseling, Master Promissory Notes (MPN), and other required documents for Federal Student Aid. Visit your smartphone's app store or the FAFSA® website at [studentaid.ed.gov](https://studentaid.ed.gov) for more information.

