

# COLLEGE PREP CHECKLIST: FINANCIAL AID

---

## 12th Grade

- Create an [FSA ID](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account) at [studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account](https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account) before you start your FAFSA
- Gather all required information and fill out the [FAFSA](https://fafsa.gov) at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) when the FAFSA opens
- Submit FAFSA as early as possible and make sure it is submitted with no errors. Correct any errors as needed on your FAFSA Submission Summary page
- Research if the schools you are applying to require the [CSS Profile](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org). If required, submit this information at [cssprofile.collegeboard.org](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org)
- Sign up for the [Dollars4College Scholarship Newsletter](https://bit.ly/3sRllls) at [bit.ly/3sRllls](https://bit.ly/3sRllls)
- Write your scholarship application essays using [Revision Learning](#) resources as needed
- Track your scholarship applications in [Naviance](#)
- Submit [DCTAG Application](https://dconeapp.dc.gov) at [dconeapp.dc.gov](https://dconeapp.dc.gov) when it opens in the spring
- Apply for other local scholarships that apply to you, such as [DC Mayor's Scholars and DC Futures](#)
- Receive your financial aid award letters from the colleges you are accepted to. Share and review them with your school counselor or college and career coordinator
- Use [UAspire's College Cost Calculator](#) to compare your financial aid award letters

