FAFSA®

FREE APPLICATION for FEDERAL STUDENT AID

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Federal Student Aid

Use this form to apply free for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans.

Or apply free online at **www.fafsa.gov**.

Applying by the Deadlines

For federal aid, submit your application as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2015. We must receive your application no later than June 30, 2016. Your college must have your correct, complete information by your last day of enrollment in the 2015-2016 school year.

For state or college aid, the deadline may be as early as January 2015. See the table on the right for state deadlines. You may also need to complete additional forms.

Check with your high school guidance counselor or a financial aid administrator at your college about state and college sources of student aid and deadlines.

If you are filing close to one of these deadlines, we recommend you file online at **www.fafsa.gov**. This is the fastest and easiest way to apply for aid.

Using Your Tax Return

We recommend that you complete and submit your FAFSA as soon as possible (on or after January 1, 2015). If you (or your parent(s) listed on the 2014 income tax return) will file your federal income tax return (IRS), and have not done so yet, you can submit your FAFSA using estimated tax information, and then you must correct that information after you file your return.

The easiest way to complete an correct your FAFSA with accurate tax information is by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool through **www.fafsa.gov**. In a few simple steps, most students and parents who filed a 2014 tax return can view and transfer their tax return information directly into their FAFSA.

Note: Both parents or both the student and spouse may need to report income information on the FAFSA if they did not file a joint tax return for 2014. For assistance with answering the income information questions in this situation, call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

Filling Out the FAFSA®

If you or your family experienced significant changes in your financial situation (such as loss of employment), complete this form to the extent you can and submit it as instructed. Consult with the financial aid office at the college(s) you applied to or plan to attend.

For help in filling out the FAFSA, go to www.studentaid.gov/completefafsa or call 1-800-4-FED-AID. TTY users (for the hearing impaired) may call 1-800-730-8913.

Fill the answer fields directly on your screen or print this form and complete it by hand. Your answers will be read electronically; therefore, if you complete the form by hand:

- use black ink and fill in circles completely;
- print clearly in CAPITAL letters and skip a box between words;
- report dollar amounts (such as $12,234) as 12234 (no $).

Correct: ● Incorrect: ⊘ ✓

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Follow these instructions when you complete the FAFSA.

Mailing Your FAFSA®

After you complete this application, make a copy of pages 2 through 4 for your records. Then mail the original of pages 2 through 4 to:

Federal Student Aid Programs, P.O. Box 79032, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864-9032.

After your application is processed, you will receive a summary of your information in your Student Aid Report (SAR). If you provided an e-mail address, your SAR will be sent by e-mail within three to five days. If you do not provide an e-mail address, your SAR will be mailed to you within three weeks. If you wouldn't like to check the status of your FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.gov or call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

Let's Get Started!

Now go to page 2 of this application/form and begin filling it out. Refer to the marker as instructed.