



# Applying for Federal Student Aid

## How should I apply?

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>
- Beginning with the 2017-2018 year, the FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible after October 1<sup>st</sup> for the following fall semester. Only an official FAFSA can be used to calculate eligibility for aid.
- An official FAFSA must include:
  - All signature requirements satisfied (including parents if required)
  - An official Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  - All required questions completed (no blanks or incomplete answers)

*We suggest you temporarily allow pop-ups when using the FAFSA website (or if your browser has the option, select “always allow from this site”)*

- OPSU’s school code is 003174
- Get a FSAID: you and your parent (if you are a dependent student) will need a U.S. Department of Education FSAID to sign your FAFSA electronically
- On the FAFSA application, use the IRS data retrieval tool to obtain tax return information if you are eligible to do so and have filed your federal taxes online at least 2 weeks prior. Don’t make changes to the IRS data.
  - If you have not filed taxes, provide estimated information to file your FAFSA early, then file your taxes as soon as possible and use an electronic process. After 2 weeks, make corrections to your FAFSA and use the IRS data retrieval tool. Don’t make changes to the IRS data.
  - Review the IRS Data Retrieval Tutorial to learn how to use the IRS data retrieval tool when making corrections to your FAFSA
  - If you are unable to use the IRS data retrieval tool, request an IRS Tax Return Transcript shortly after filing your taxes
- Be admitted as a degree-seeking student at OPSU

## When should I apply?

- Apply as soon after October 1<sup>st</sup> as possible and turn in required documents as quickly as possible
- OPSU receives limited funding for the SEOG and Federal Work Study. Funding for state grants, including OTAG is limited and earliest applicant receive priority for funds

## What happens next?

- You will receive confirmation from the U.S. Department of Education that you have completed the FAFSA. Be sure to review the information you submitted and make any corrections as needed.
- OPSU will email you if we determine we need additional information from you
- Emails are sent to your OPSU email address, but you must have an active Aggie Access
- You can also check the status of your application on OPSU’s self-service at [my.opsu.edu](http://my.opsu.edu)