
What You Need to Know About Financial Aid 2027-2028

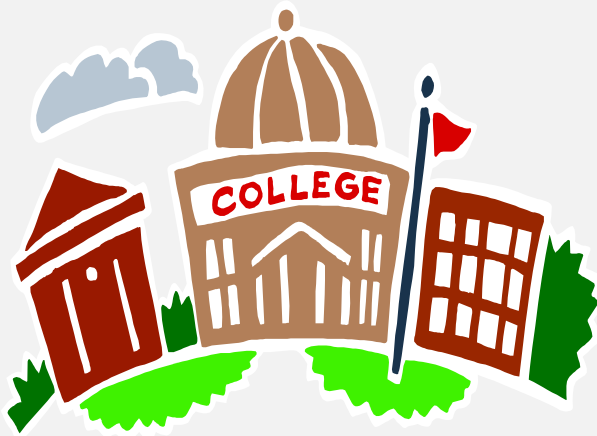


TOPICS WE WILL DISCUSS TONIGHT

- What is financial aid?
- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Student Aid Index (SAI)
- Financial need
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Special circumstances

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid consists of **funds** (scholarships, grants, loans, work-study) provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary **educational expenses**.



WHAT IS COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)?

- COA includes:
 - Tuition & Fees
 - Housing & Meals
 - Books, Course Materials, Supplies, & Equipment
 - Transportation
 - Miscellaneous Personal Expenses
- Direct v. Indirect Costs
- COA Varies widely from college to college
- Based on enrollment level

WHAT IS THE STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)?

- The SAI formula calculates the total financial resources of you and your parents (or spouse in some cases) then deducts the minimum amount needed for your family's normal annual living expenses.
- Stays the same regardless of college
- Two components
 - Parent contribution
 - Student contribution
- Calculated using data from a federal application form and a federal formula

WHAT IS FINANCIAL NEED?

Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Student Aid Index (SAI)
 - Other Financial Assistance (OFA)
-

= Financial Need

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Gift Aid

- Scholarships
- Grants

Self-Help Aid

- Loans
- Employment

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

- Federal government
- States
- Colleges and universities
- Private sources
- Civic organizations and churches
- Employers

WHAT'S OUT THERE FOR STUDENTS?

Pell Grants – Based on SAI

- Automatic with eligibility
- 2026-2027 maximum annual award amount \$7,395

FSEOG

- Supplemental grant for the neediest of students
- Based on availability

TEACH Grant

- For those planning to teach in high-need fields
- Agreement to Serve

Kansas Comprehensive Grant

- Determined by the KS Legislators
- Available at 4-year Colleges & Universities
- Based on availability



HOW DO SCHOLARSHIPS WORK?

Scholarships are considered “gift aid” similar to grants

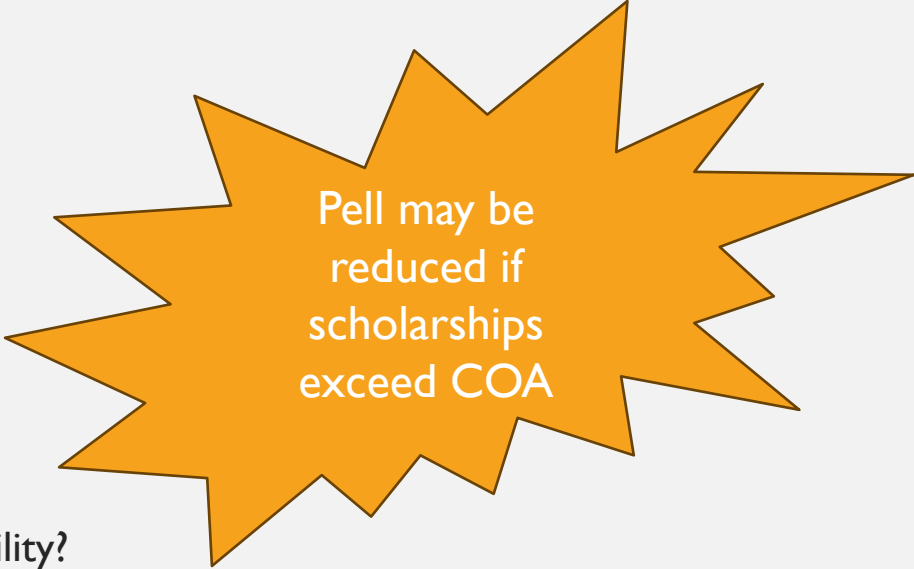
- Some have restrictions on what they will pay
 - Direct costs only?
 - Are there enrollment restrictions?
- They come from multiple sources
 - Institutions
 - Organizations
 - Employers
 - Churches
 - The list is growing every day



WHERE DO I FIND THEM?

Institutional Scholarships

- Is there an application?
 - Are there MULTIPLE applications?
- When do I apply?
 - What is the deadline?
- Is it based on Merit or Need?
 - What do they need to determine eligibility?
- Does it require follow-up?
- Is it renewable?
 - What are the requirements for renewal?

An orange starburst graphic with multiple points, containing text about Pell grants.

Pell may be
reduced if
scholarships
exceed COA

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

http://kansasregents.org/students/student_financial_aid/scholarships_and_grants




[Contact Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Quick Links](#)

ABOUTACADEMIC AFFAIRSDATASTUDENTSUNIVERSITIES & COLLEGESWORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION:

- Admissions
- Adult Education
- Advising Resources
- Apply Free Days
- Apply Kansas
- Dual Credit
- Credit for Prior Learning
- FAFSA Completion Challenge
- FAFSA Resources
- Free Expression Statement
- High School Counselor
- Information for Students and Prospective Students
- Kansas High School Diploma
- Military & Veteran Resources
- Residency FAQ
- Reverse Transfer
- Student Financial Aid**
 - General Info
 - Financial Aid Offices
 - Scholarships and Grants**
 - Kansas Scholars Curriculum
 - Financial Aid FAQ
 - Promise Act Scholarship
 - Adult Learner Grant
 - Student Health Insurance

[Home](#) / [Students](#) / [Student Financial Aid](#) / Scholarships and Grants

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

You can apply for State of Kansas Student Aid one of two ways:

1. Complete the [online form](#) to apply for the following semesters - **Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 semesters**

OR

2. Print, complete and mail the [State of Kansas Student Aid Application](#).

We will primarily contact you by the email address that you have provided on your application.

For security reasons, make sure you are using an up-to-date browser. If you experience a problem, please try the current version of Chrome or Internet Explorer.

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Kansas Adult Learner Grant

The Kansas Adult Learner Grant provides assistance for KS resident adult students aged 25 and older who are seeking a bachelor's degree in specific fields of study. This is a service scholarship; accepting funds obligates the recipient to live and work in Kansas after graduating from their degree program.

Eligible fields of study include:

- Information technology and security;
- Health care and nursing;
- Science, engineering, aerospace, and advanced manufacturing;
- Education, early childhood education and development;
- Business, accounting or data analytics; OR
- One additional field of study designated by the institution and identified as high demand, high wage, or critical need occupation.

Students can enroll in full time or part time credit hours (no less than 6 credit hours). The grant can pay towards tuition, required fees, and books.

The grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis.

See https://kansasregents.org/students/student_financial_aid/adult-learner-grant for more detailed information and the application.

Deadlines: **Application for the 2024-2025 school year has been closed.** Due to limited funding, we have closed the application.

Awards are made on a first come, first serve basis.

- [Online Form](#)
- [Information](#)

KANSAS STATE PROGRAMS

- Kansas State Scholarship
- Career Technical Workforce Grant
- Kansas Career Work Study Program
- Military Service Scholarship
- Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship
- Kansas Nursing Service Scholarship
- Kansas Opportunity Scholarship
- Kansas Adult Learner Grant
- Kansas Computer Science Educator Scholarship
- Kansas Hero's Scholarship
- Kansas National Guard Educational Assistance

WHAT'S OUT THERE ... (CONTINUED)

Federal Work Study

- Federal dollars paid in exchange for part-time employment in designated jobs
- School comes first

Federal Direct Loans

- Subsidized
- Unsubsidized
- Freshman Annual Loan Limit = \$5500 0-29 credits
- Sophomore Annual Loan Limit = \$6500 30-59 credits
- Parent PLUS Loans

Private/Alternative Loans

- Compare interest rates between lenders and federal programs



LOANS: THINGS TO REMEMBER

- They do have to be paid back (don't plan on forgiveness)
- Now based on enrollment level, changing enrollment after disbursement could affect future semesters
- Borrow only what is needed

APPLY FOR AID: STUDENTAID.GOV

FederalStudentAid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ^

Grants and Loans v

Loan Repayment v

Loan Discharge v



Log In | Create Account

Complete the FAFSA® Form

Accept an Invitation

Learn About the FAFSA® Form

How To Fill Out the FAFSA Form

FAFSA Deadlines

How To Check Your FAFSA Status

How To Review and Correct Your FAFSA Form

Learn About the FAFSA Submission Summary

FAFSA Help Center

Manage
Federal S

Get Repayme

Our Repayment Calculator >

an Servicer >

consolidation Loan >

Driven Repayment Plan >

Fill Out a FAFSA® Form >

Considering School

I'm thinking about going to college or a career school.

In School

I'm in the process of earning a degree or certificate.

Parent

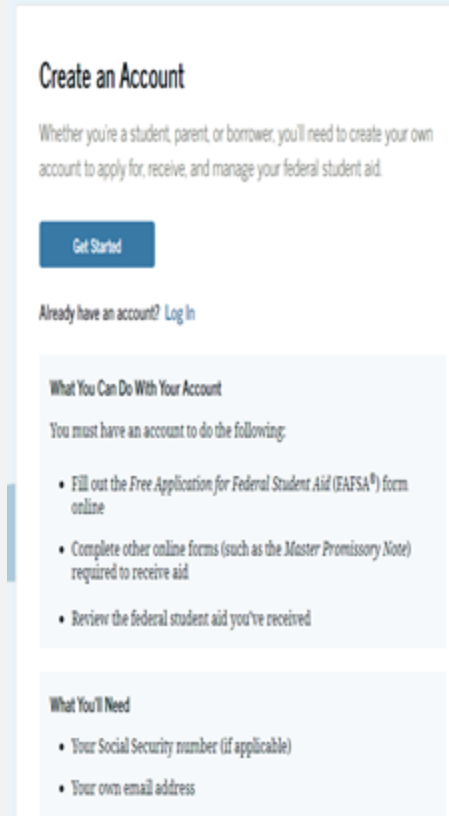
I want to help my child pay for college.

In Repayment

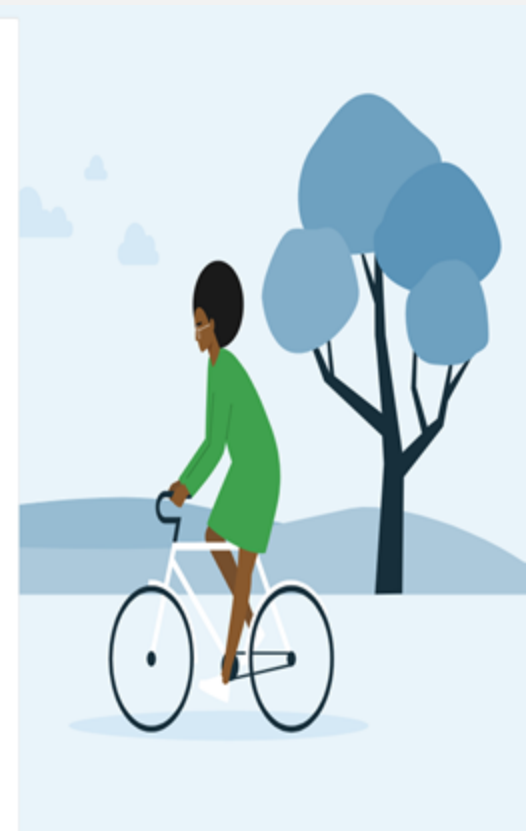
I have loans I need to repay.

FEDERAL STUDENT AID ID

- Used for FAFSA completion and allows access to certain U.S. Department of Education websites
- Student **and** any parent(s) applying with the student need to create a FSA ID
- May be used by students and parents throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
- Two-factor authentication will be required
- Apply at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>



The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account' page. At the top, it says 'Create an Account' followed by a paragraph: 'Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to apply for, receive, and manage your federal student aid.' Below this is a blue 'Get Started' button. Underneath the button, it asks 'Already have an account?' with a 'Log In' link. The next section is titled 'What You Can Do With Your Account' and states 'You must have an account to do the following:'. It lists three bullet points: 'Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form online', 'Complete other online forms (such as the Master Promissory Note) required to receive aid', and 'Review the federal student aid you've received'. The final section is titled 'What You'll Need' and lists two bullet points: 'Your Social Security number (if applicable)' and 'Your own email address'.



Each FSA ID Requires a Different E-mail Address

FAFSA FORM WELCOME PAGE

An official website of the United States government.

Get Help FAFSA Form English Español

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FAFSA® Form ▾ Grants and Loans ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾

Log In | Create Account

Get Money To Help Pay for School

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

Start New FormEdit Existing FormsAccept an Invitation



Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live in

Some states and schools use information from the FAFSA® form to determine your eligibility for their grants, scholarships, and loans. Check your state's deadlines here!

Missing a state deadline doesn't impact your eligibility for federal student aid, so fill out your FAFSA form even if your state deadline has passed.

School Year

State of Residence

Find Deadlines

[View All FAFSA Deadlines](#)



Who should complete the FAFSA® form?



12 minutes

How long will it take?

People typically finish their section of



What do I need?

- Verified account username and



Hi! Need help?

FAFSA CYCLE YEAR SELECT PAGE

 An official website of the United States government.

[Get Help](#)

[FAFSA Form](#)

[English](#) | [Español](#)

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[FAFSA® Form](#) ▼

[Grants and Loans](#) ▼

[Loan Repayment](#) ▼

[Loan Forgiveness](#) ▼



[Log In](#) | [Create Account](#)

Which FAFSA® form do you need?

SCHOOL YEAR
2027-28

Typically for classes starting **on or after:**
July 1, 2027

[Start](#)

SCHOOL YEAR
2026-27

Typically for classes starting **before:**
July 1, 2027

[Start](#)

Attending school during a summer session?

If you're starting classes during a summer session, contact your school to verify what school year you should pick to apply for federal student aid.

FAFSA

- Information used to calculate the Student Aid Index (SAI)
- FAFSA is available now and from now on will launch on or before October 1
- For 2027-2028 use 2025 Tax Data
- Some colleges set FAFSA priority filing deadlines so do your research
- studentaid.gov
- Identity Validation
 - Have ID present at the time you start the application

YOUR DEPENDENCY STATUS

FAFSA[®] FORM
2027-28

Student George Gutierrez

Save

FAFSA Menu

1
Background

2
Demographics

3
Financials

4
Colleges

5
Contributor Invite

6
Review & Sign

Your Dependency Status



Dependent Student

Based on your answers, you're a dependent student. This means you must provide parent information on your FAFSA[®] form. This information helps determine how much federal student aid you're eligible to receive.

Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only

Are the student's parents refusing to provide their information on this FAFSA[®] form? ⓘ

This response must be "No" for the student to be considered for Federal Pell Grant eligibility and most other types of federal student aid.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Previous

Continue

Hi! Need help?

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY SECTION

Citizenship

- US Citizens will have an SSN tied to their legal name
- Eligible Non-Citizens will have both an SSN & A-Number

Grade Level

- Not Graduate Students or Seniors

Degree student is seeking

- Associate, Bachelor before Master's or PhD

Foster Care

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2026-27 form for Student Alex Tran. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: 1. Personal Circumstances (selected), 2. Demographics, 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Signature. The current section is 'Student College or Career School Plans'. The question asks: 'When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, what will their college grade level be?'. The options are: 'First year (freshman)' (selected), 'Second year (sophomore)', 'Other undergraduate (Junior and beyond)', and 'Master's, doctorate, or graduate certificate program (such as MA, MBA, M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)'. Below this, another question asks: 'When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, will they already have their first bachelor's degree?'. The options are 'Yes' and 'No' (selected). At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY SECTION (CONT'D)

- Students can select up to 20 colleges to receive their FAFSA results

The screenshot displays the FAFSA 2027-28 Student Eligibility section for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar indicates the following steps: Background (checked), Demographics (checked), Financials (checked), Colleges (current step, marked with a '4'), Contributor Invite (marked with a '5'), and Review & Sign (marked with a '6').

Where should we send the FAFSA® information?
You can add more schools after submitting your form.

0 out of 20 schools selected [View Selected Schools](#)

[Search by School Name or Code](#) [Search by Location](#)

School Name or Code

DEPENDENT OR INDEPENDENT: THAT IS THE QUESTION

- Born before Jan. 1, 2004
- Veteran
- Active duty- military
- Married
- Children or other dependents
- Both parents deceased
- Foster care past age 13
- Dependent/ward of court past age 13
- Legal guardianship
- Emancipated minor
- Homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Graduate student

If the answer to ALL is NO; student is dependent

If the answer to ANY is YES; student is independent

IRS CONSENT IS REQUIRED

Tax information sent directly from the IRS for student and parent(s)

- When logging in, all contributors will be required to give consent to transfer this information
- Contributor refers to anyone who is required to provide information, consent and approval, and a signature on the FAFSA form.
- Contributors are determined by
 - Dependency
 - Tax Filing
 - Marital Status
- The processing system will confirm if there is tax information on file and bring it directly into the FAFSA.
- Just because you are identified as a contributor for FAFSA does not mean that you will be financially responsible.

*****No consent = No Federal Aid*****

PARENTS INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE

- Contributor used often as a term for anyone who will provide information to the FAFSA
- Students will be asked to invite parents/spouse to contribute
- Contributors have 45 days to complete the invite, or it will expire and the student will have to redo it

FAFSA[®] FORM
2027–28

Student **George Gutierrez**

Save | FAFSA Menu

✓

✓

✓

✓

5

6

BackgroundDemographicsFinancialsCollegesContributor InviteReview & Sign

Invite a Parent as a Contributor

A contributor is anyone who's required to provide information on your FAFSA form. In this section, you must invite a legal parent—a biological or adoptive parent as determined by the state.

You shouldn't invite a stepparent or legal guardian (such as a grandparent or foster parent) unless they have legally adopted you. Your legal parent will invite your stepparent to the form if needed. Stepparents and other types of guardians do not count unless they have legally adopted the student.

Who should I invite as a parent on the FAFSA form?

PreviousContinue



WHO'S MY PARENT ON THE FAFSA

Dependent Students

- Parents are married-both report information
- Parents are not married but live together-both report information
- Parents do not live together (separated/divorce)-report for the parent who provides the greater portion of the student's support
- If remarried, stepparent information must also be included.



Grandparents, foster parents, and legal guardians are NOT considered parents unless they legally adopted you

DETERMINING CONTRIBUTORS FOR DEPENDENT STUDENTS

For help determining who is a contributor of the FAFSA - use the parent wizard at <https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-apply/parents>

Who counts as a parent on the FAFSA® form?

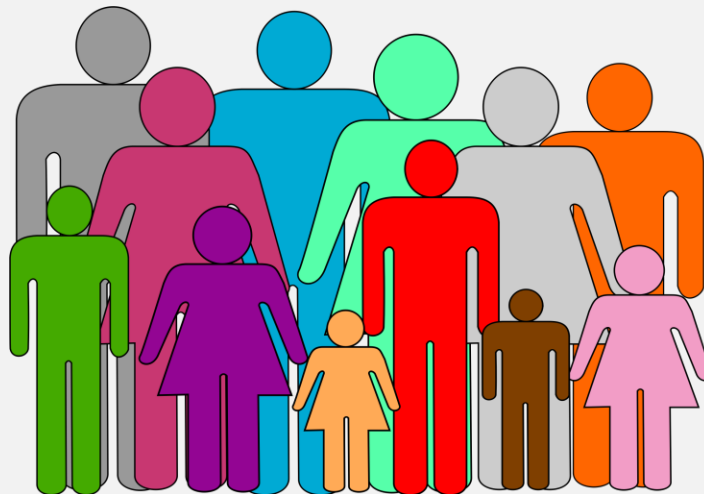
A student may need to ask their parent(s) to provide information on their FAFSA form based on the student's [dependency status](#).

This tool helps determine which parent(s) should participate in a student's [FAFSA form](#).



HOUSEHOLD SIZE

- This number will automatically be populated with the number of individuals the parent(s) claimed on the 2025 federal tax return
- FAFSA will ask if this is correct, if not correct there will be an option to manually enter the correct household size



WHAT ASSETS WILL I INCLUDE?

VALUES ARE AS OF THE DAY YOU SUBMIT

DO Report

- ✓ **Cash, checking & savings**
Today's balances
- ✓ **Stocks, bonds, mutual funds**
Plus money market accounts & CDs
- ✓ **Real estate you don't live in**
Anything other than your primary residence
- ✓ **The student's own 529 plan**

HOW TO VALUE IT

Current market value
– debt secured by that asset
= net worth to report

Log in on filing day. Use property records or Zillow for real estate.

DON'T Report

- ✗ **Your primary home**
- ✗ **401(k)s, IRAs, pensions & annuities**
- ✗ **Life insurance policies**
- ✗ **529 plans for siblings not applying**
Or UGMA/UTMA accounts the student doesn't own
- ✗ **Small businesses & family farms**
New under OBBBA: under 100 employees, or a farm you live on
- ✗ **Credit cards, car loans, student loans**
Only debt secured by a reported asset reduces its value

FREQUENT FAFSA ERRORS

- Social Security numbers
- Students must use their LEGAL name as listed with Social Security Administration
- Divorced/remarried parental information
- Forgetting to sign the FAFSA form
- Not inviting a required contributor
- Real estate and investment net worth
- What assets to include



Make corrections online at studentaid.gov

FAFSA PROCESSING RESULTS

- Notice of the FAFSA Submission Summary will be emailed to the student
- Record will be sent to the colleges listed on the FAFSA. Processing time will vary by school
- Colleges may request additional information once they receive the results
 - Make sure students know how each school communicates with them
 - FERPA Policy
 - Return any additional information right away so it gives schools time for processing
- Watch for award notifications
- Corrections can be made at studentaid.gov

Many schools won't begin awarding aid for 2027-2028 until January or February and can vary school to school.

Special Circumstances

Unusual uncovered
medical/dental
expenses

Secondary
school tuition

Extraordinary
dependent care

Parent or
spouse
death

Loss of
employment

Divorce

Student
cannot obtain
parental
information



SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Cannot be documented using FAFSA
- Change in employment status
- Unusual medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Send written explanation and documentation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Undergraduate Student Standards

Time Frame

- 180 credit hours attempted at all institutions

Grade Point Average

- Cumulative Credit Hours 0-29 Hours = 1.6
- Cumulative Credit Hours 30 or more Hours = 2.0

Pace

- Must complete 67% or more of hours attempted over the history of their undergraduate college credits

WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

- Obtain and review admissions and financial aid web sites and materials for each school to which you are applying.
 - Apply Kansas Days are October 5-9, 2026
- Meet all application deadlines.
 - Complete FAFSA and other application materials. Submit all requested follow-up documents.
- Investigate other sources of aid.
- Prepare a budget and have a game plan.

2027-2028 FAFSA COMPLETION NIGHTS FHSU CAMPUS

- November 18, 2026
Memorial Union Cody
Commons 9-10:30 AM
- February 16, 2027
Cunningham Hall
Room 135 6-8:00 PM



QUESTIONS?

