

FAFSA UPDATE

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THE 2025-26 FAFSA: SETTING UP AN FSA ID IS THE FIRST STEP

Although students and parents won't be able to apply for financial aid until December, you can get ready by setting up an FSA ID or StudentAid.gov account.

The U.S. Department of Education announced several weeks ago that it would not release the 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) until December 1.

In the meantime, students and parents can go ahead and set up their account at StudentAid.gov, also known as creating an FSA ID. An FSA ID is the username and password for the StudentAid.gov account.

When setting up an account, here are a couple of tips to make the process successful:

- Make sure your name and social security number match what you have on your Social Security card.
- A student and their parent (or parents) cannot share an account and cannot use the same email address and/or phone number to create their accounts.

Be sure to keep your username and password secure to protect your personal information.

NORTH DAKOTA 2024-25 FAFSA COMPLETION STEADY

North Dakota's high school seniors in the class of 2024 are completing the FAFSA at about the same rate as the previous graduating class, according to FAFSA data, published by the National College Attainment Network (NCAN).

As of September 27, more than 48.5 percent of the state's seniors have completed and submitted a 2024-25 FAFSA, a 1.2 percent drop compared to the same period last year.

North Dakota's decline in FAFSA completions is the lowest in the country with many states experiencing a much larger drop in completions. The decline in FAFSA completions nationwide has been attributed to the 2024-25 technical issues and delays.

In its FAFSA Tracker, NCAN reports that 4,317 seniors in the 2024 graduating class have completed FAFSA, a drop of 54 FAFSA completions from the previous year.



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