



**COLLEGE**

**JUST AHEAD**

# INTRODUCTIONS

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# WHAT IS THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER?

- Federally Funded Grant Program
- Population Served:
  - 18 and older
  - First Generation College Students
  - Low Income Students
  - Students with disabilities
- Services:
  - FAFSA Assistance
  - Student Loan Assistance
  - College Application Assistance
  - Career Assessments
  - GED Referrals
  - Scholarship Searches

# WHAT IS THE FAFSA?

- FREE Application for Federal Student Aid
- [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)
- Anyone interested in receiving federal funds for college
  - Pell Grant Eligibility
  - Student Loan Eligibility
- Anyone interested in receiving funds from the SC Education Lottery
  - Be a SC Resident
  - Submit the FAFSA

# WHEN DOES THE FAFSA NEED TO BE COMPLETED?

- Once an academic year
  - Current academic year is 2023-2024
    - Students interested in taking classes this summer must complete the 22-23 FAFSA no later than June 30, 2023
  - 2024-2025 academic year begins in the fall (August)
    - Students interested in taking classes beginning in the fall need to complete the 24-25 FAFSA as soon as possible
      - **This application opens in December but that exact date is not known at this time**
- The sooner the better to prevent processing delays
- FAFSA deadlines for individual schools vary; FAFSA applicants should check with their school selections for these deadlines

# WHAT DOES A FAFSA APPLICANT NEED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA?

- Tax Returns
  - In addition to the applicant's tax information, parent tax information is required if the applicant is younger than 24, is not married, does not have any children and not in the military (DEPENDENT STUDENT)
- FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID)
  - Username and Password; serves as an electronic signature [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)
  - The applicant **MUST** have an FSA ID
  - If the applicant is a DEPENDENT STUDENT, the applicant's parent **MUST** also have an FSA ID

# Questions



Request an  
appointment



studentaid.gov