



# WIN BIG FOR COLLEGE

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) playbook for high school seniors, undergraduates, and graduate students



### Kickoff

Gather the records you'll need, including 2016 tax returns, financial statements, and driver's license numbers, before you begin.



### Team huddle

When it comes to the FAFSA, parents, counselors, and financial aid administrators can be your MVPs. Work with them to complete your application.



### Watch for trick plays

You never need to pay for the FAFSA. It's always FREE and available only at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).



### Be the first to score

Some financial aid is awarded first-come, first-served, so submit your FAFSA application as soon after October 1 as you can.



### Touchdown!

Submit your FAFSA and see if you're eligible for federal, state, or college-based aid.

Remember to fill out the FAFSA each year you're in college or graduate school.

## FAFSA GAME STATS



**86%** ..... families who filled out the FAFSA in 2016<sup>1</sup>

**30 minutes** ..... average time it takes to fill out the FAFSA<sup>2</sup>

**\$120 billion** ..... amount of federal financial aid available<sup>2</sup>



Apply even if you don't think you qualify. Most students receive some type of financial aid.

GET READY FOR GAME TIME AT [SALLIEMAE.COM/FAFSA](http://SALLIEMAE.COM/FAFSA)

<sup>1</sup> How America Pays for College 2017, by Sallie Mae® and Ipsos.

<sup>2</sup> Office of Federal Student Aid, <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>.

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