

FAFSA/CASFA Updates

Cody Eden, FAFSA Coordinator

Sophie Vogel, CASFA Coordinator

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COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education

FAFSA/CASFA Updates Agenda

- 2025-26 FAFSA Open for ALL!
- Support IS Available
- Financial Aid Completion Portal
- NCAN/Presidents Alliance Communication
- 2025-26 CASFA Update

2025-26 FAFSA – Ready, Set, GO!

- Happy FAFSA Week of Action!
- Launched Nov 21 after successful Beta testing & feedback – thank you!
 - Direct Unsub. Question - defaults to “No” and added “Are you sure” pop-up
 - IRS Data Import Screen added to confirm
 - Other slight language/usability corrections, but no significant flow changes from 24-25
- 2024-25 vs. 2025-26 Aid Years
- StudentAid.Gov Account vs. FSA ID Account

ID Verification Waiver Extended for Contributors w/o SSN

- 2025-26 FAFSA Cycle
 - Contributors w/o SSN will continue Attestation & Validation of ID steps embedded in account creation process and may proceed directly to FAFSA form to complete
 - Idverification@ed.gov email is now disabled/not accepting new ID documents
 - Institution-based verification practices continue

FSA Support Available

- Contact Center Hours Extended
- FAFSA/CASFA Toolkits (CDHE)
- Prototype
- Parent/Contributor Wizard
- YouTube Link – FSA ID
- Social Media



Federal Student Aid Info Center (FSAIC)

<https://studentaid.gov/help-center/contact>

1-800-433-3243 (1-800-4 FED AID)

FAFSA Support Hours in **bold**

- Monday: 6am-7pm - **FAFSA until 8pm**
- Tue/Wed: 6am-6pm – **FAFSA until 8pm**
- Thur/Fri: 6am-4pm – **FAFSA until 8pm**
- Sat/Sun: Closed. – **FAFSA 10am-3pm Saturdays**

CDHE FAFSA/CASFA Toolkits

<https://cdhe.colorado.gov/educators/fafsa/casfa-resources/fafsa-or-casfa> (English)



<https://cdhe.colorado.gov/educators/fafsa/casfa-resources/fafsa-o-casfa> (Spanish)



Prototype Web Address and Access Code

- Visit <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2526>



- Enter access code: prototype2526

2025-26
FAFSA
Prototype

Parent/ Contributor Wizard

Visit: <https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-apply/parents>



FSA ID / StudentAid.Gov Account Creation

Visit:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
app=desktop&v=ih637AAhnpA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=ih637AAhnpA)



FSA YouTube

CDHE Financial Aid Completion Portal

- Revamping platform, adding CASFA, thank you for your patience!
- Colorado-Specific, Free Tool to access student level data and confirm FAFSA/CASFA submission status
- Communication to leadership coming soon
 - Data Share Agreement (DSA) Required!
 - Access coming back once we verify POCs for those with existing DSA
 - Not sure? Email fafsa.dhe.state.co.us to verify and/or start the conversation

Current Link: <https://fafsa.highered.colorado.gov/Reports/Summary>

FSA ID/studentaid.gov
account creation for
contributors w/o SSN

National College Attainment Network (NCAN) published a statement on 11/25/24 stating:

“(We) cannot assure mixed-status students and families that data submitted to US Department of Education, as part of the FAFSA process, will continue to be protected.”

Presidents’ Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration updated a guide on 11/26/24 that detailed:

“There are currently no agreements in place allowing Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to use information collected as part of the FAFSA for the purposes of immigration enforcement.”

Additionally, the President’s Alliance shared:

- they will publish and keep up to date a summary of the authorized data sharing
- the paper FAFSA does not require that contributors submit identifying documents to validate their identity

2025-26 CASFA

Launch date in December 2024 expected. Hopefully, this week of Dec. 9, more likely next week of Dec. 16. We will send out an email campaign when the new form launches. Students can continue to monitor the CASFA portal and the CDHE website for updates. Thank you for your patience.

Upcoming Events

CDHE Lunch and Learn
Jan 15, Feb 19, March
12

(website updated soon)



Educator Financial
Aid Trainings @

Aims – 2/13

Adams – 2/28



Want our help?
CDHE Outreach
Event Request Form



**Remember to say “FAFSA/CASFA” to include everyone!*

Contact Info

CDHE Outreach and Communications

<https://cdhe.colorado.gov/postsecondary-education-programs-and-services>

cody.eden@dhe.state.co.us

fafsa@dhe.state.co.us

Sophie.vogel@dhe.state.co.us

casfa@dhe.state.co.us