

Top Twelve Errors made on the FAFSA

1. Type incorrect Social Security Number/Date of Birth.
2. Forgetting to report all required sources of untaxed income: Social Security, child support, workers compensation & disability income.
3. Reporting the correct marital status.
4. Not including yourself (student) in the household size.
5. Custodial parent has remarried; step-parent's financial information **MUST** be included on the FAFSA.
6. **Not using the correct website**, <https://fafsa.gov/> . Remember the FAFSA stands for the **FREE** Application for Federal Student Aid there is no credit card requirement.
7. **Not getting your FSA ID in time.** It takes up to three days. You need this ID to electronically sign your FAFSA please apply ahead of time.
8. **Listing only one college.** If you haven't received any acceptances yet then put your top schools on the FAFSA. If you have been accepted to some of your applied colleges then list them in addition to those that you have not heard from yet.
9. **Not reporting Parental Information.** Most students are dependent. Part three of the FAFSA has the Dependency questions.
10. **Entering the wrong name.** The name on your Social Security card is what you put on the FAFSA & when applying for the FSA ID.
11. **Not using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.** Thanks to a partnership with the IRS, students and parents who are eligible can automatically transfer the necessary tax info into the FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.
12. **Not signing your FAFSA.** So many students answer every single question that is asked, but fail to actually sign the FAFSA with their FSA ID and submit it. This happens for many reasons —maybe you forgot your FSA ID, or your parent isn't with you to sign with the parent FSA ID —so the FAFSA is left incomplete.