

## ***FAFSA For Everyone! – Teacher Version***

**Grade level:** 12

**Suggested Duration:** 1 hour (FAFSA is complicated)

**Target Audience:** Students seeking federal aid for their education (FAFSA instruction is required in Economics—usually taken in grade 12—but is also appropriate earlier)

### **§118.4. Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, High School**

(21) Personal financial literacy. The student understands the various methods available to pay for college and other postsecondary education and training. The student is expected to:

(A) understand how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) provided by the United States Department of Education

Angelica worked hard to find scholarship money, and it paid off. What are the odds she started with FAFSA? (Spoiler: very good.)

What is FAFSA? Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step toward getting federal aid for college, career school, or graduate school. The U.S. Department of Education provides more than \$150 billion in grants, loans, and work-study funds each year, but you have to complete the FAFSA to see if you can get any of that money.

If you don't fill out the FAFSA, you could be missing out on a lot of financial aid! There are a number of reasons students think they shouldn't complete the FAFSA. Here are a few:

"I (or my parents) make too much money, so I won't qualify for aid."

"Only students with good grades get financial aid."

"The FAFSA is too hard to fill out."

"I'm too old to qualify for financial aid."

The reality is, EVERYONE should fill out the FAFSA!

Teacher can lead a discussion about FAFSA being the first step to financial aid. Instruction in FAFSA is required in Texas.	Students fill out FAFSA, online or paper, and submit it.
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Let's learn more and get started:

- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa>
- The top three pathways you learned about from your classmates' presentations, and what most interested you about each.

### ***FAFSA For Everyone! – Student Version***

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