

The high pay, high demand jobs in Vermont require some form of education or training. Various forms of financial aid may be available to help you go.

But to access federal aid, as well as most state & college aid including grants and scholarships, you will need to file a FAFSA. Each year in Vermont, millions in aid dollars go unused because students simply didn't apply. Remember, students must file a FAFSA every year they attend college or training – it's NOT one and done!

A new FAFSA for the 2024-2025 academic year is coming in December. It is expected to be shorter and more user friendly, and there will also be other important changes.

1. Available in **December** (not October) – this year only!
2. **Fewer** (and some different) questions.
3. All student and parent filers need an **FSA ID**. Get one at: studentaid.gov/fsa-id
4. The **parent contributor** who files the FAFSA may be different this year. The parent who provided the most financial support over the past 12 months must file. Anyone who is required to enter information on the FAFSA will be referred to as a **contributor**.
5. Both student and parent must **consent** for federal tax information to be transferred from the IRS to the form.
6. **Student Aid Index (SAI)** will replace Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as the starting point for determining federal financial aid eligibility.
7. Your FAFSA information can be sent to up to **20 schools** (previously up to 10).
8. Some **asset reporting** criteria will change:
 - i. Some families will not have to report assets.
 - ii. Small family-owned businesses and farms are no longer exempt from reporting.
9. Some **federal aid eligibility** criteria will change:
 - i. Pell Grant eligibility will be expanded.
 - ii. Number of students in school will no longer have an impact.

Learn more and sign up for VSAC help at

vsac.org/FAFSA