

EducationQuest has free tools to help with FAFSA filing process.

If planning to attend college during the 2011-2012 academic year, it's time to prepare for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)—the application for federal, state and college-based financial aid.

Those who should file the FAFSA include college-bound high school seniors and their parents, college-bound adults and current college students.

It's important to submit the FAFSA before the college's priority date as some financial aid is awarded first-come, first-served. To determine the priority date at a college, contact the school's financial aid office.

FAFSA can be completed and filed electronically at fafsa.gov. See the "Completing the FAFSA" section at EducationQuest.org for free tools to help get started.

- "FAFSA Made Easy" video demonstrates that the FAFSA isn't as difficult as it seems.
- FAFSA Checklist provides a list of items to gather before completing the FAFSA.
- FAFSA Tutorial explains each FAFSA question.
- Podcasts explain the FAFSA and how to prepare.

If needing help with the FAFSA, call the EducationQuest Foundation's nearest location to make an appointment or to receive help over the phone.

EducationQuest is a private, nonprofit organization that provides free college planning services. Locations are in Kearney (800-666-3721), Lincoln (800-303-3745) and Omaha (888-357-6300).