

Carmi-White County High School

Bulldog P.R.I.D.E.



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Dear parents/guardians of CWCHS Seniors,

The Illinois State Board of Education is requiring that all students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible to graduate from a public high school in Illinois. Parents/guardians must create an FSA ID. This can be done online studentaid.gov. Students are also required to create their own unique FSA ID. Once the student and parent/guardian have created their FSA ID then you can complete your FAFSA at studentaid.gov. Below are step by step instructions to help you with the completion of the FAFSA.

On Wednesday, October 15th the CWCHS Guidance Department will host a FAFSA Completion Night in the high school auditorium at 6:00 pm. If you have any questions please contact the CWCHS Guidance Department.

1. Go to studentaid.gov and create an FSA ID for you. Your parents will need one as well. **This must be done at least 72 hours prior to attempting to complete the FAFSA Application.**
2. Once you have created your FSA ID, you may go to studentaid.gov to begin filling out your FAFSA.
3. The tabs at the top tell you which section you are on. You will fill out the demographic information for yourself and then your parents will fill out their demographic information.
4. When you get to the tax information, you may use the Data Retrieval Tool for the IRS website. You will type in your information exactly as it appears on your Tax return.
5. Once you have completed the FAFSA, you will sign your FAFSA with your FSA ID and your parent will sign it with his/her FSA ID. Then click on the submit button. It will take a few days for the FAFSA to be processed.
6. If you need to make corrections, you have to wait until it is processed.

We advise everyone to use the IRS Direct Data Exchange tool when completing the FAFSA. If you are unable to use the IRS Data Exchange you will need the following:

- Student FSA ID/password
- Parent FSA ID/password
- Student 2024 federal tax return
- Student 2024 W2s
- Parent 2024 federal tax return
- Parent 2024 W2s
- Social security numbers
- Student and parent email addresses and email account passwords
- Driver's License number (if applicable)