VASA

Applying to Virginia State Aid 101

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What is the purpose of the VASA application?

The sole purpose of the VASA application is to calculate the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) if the student is otherwise ineligible to complete the federal FAFSA form. The VASA application does not provide unique access to any state aid program nor create any new state aid program. The VASA application, by itself, does not provide final verification of whether any student is eligible for state aid.

WHICH APPLICATION SHOULD YOU COMPLETE?

File a FAFSA >>

Who should file the FAFSA?

United States citizens and eligible noncitizens can complete this form to apply for federal and state financial aid.

File a VASA Application >>

Who should file the VASA Application?

Virginians who are nonimmigrants, undocumented, have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status or are otherwise ineligible to file the FAFSA and would like to be considered for state financial aid. The VASA application provides access only to state financial aid.

QUICK TIP

If you are not sure which application to complete, follow this link!

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What You Need to Complete the VASA Application

- Social Security, DACA or ITIN number (if applicable
- Driver's license number (if applicable) YOU DO NOT NEED THIS IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT.
- Date of birth, phone number, address and other demographic information
- Email addresses (must be different for student and parent)
- Tax returns and other income information from two years prior (for example, the 2023-24 award year requires information from the 2021 tax year.)
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable) Records of untaxed income (if applicable)

QUICK TIP:
Gather material before you begin application so you can complete it efficiently!

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Application Questions

Name

- Enter your full name and all other personal information as it appears on any official documents you may have such as a driver's license, school records, or social security card.

Application Questions

Question referring to when you became a legal resident?

- This question refers to your actual physical presence in the Commonwealth and does not reference a person's legal status.

QUICK TIP: Answer with when you moved to Virginia! NOT THE USA

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Application Questions

Selective Service certification statement

- The Commonwealth of Virginia requires that state aid recipients meet the federal Selective Service requirements

QUICK TIP:
Almost all males who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service.

Note:
Failure to register with the selective service can be a bar to naturalization.
(You can mail in your registration if you are undocumented.)

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After Submission

Next Steps:

Once you have completed your application, your application will be sent to the Virginia institution(s) you selected. State and institutional awards will be determined and announced by the institution through its financial aid notification system.

QUICK TIP:

Contact institutions' financial aid offices for specifics on their awarding process.

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MISTAKE?!?!

Don't Panic!
Email tuitionequity@schev.edu to request that your application be reopened so you can make corrections/updates

RELATED TIPS:

- Make sure you're parents or guardians file taxes it will make it easier to prove income
- When filling your college applications DO NOT list VISA holder if your VISA has expired or if your authorized period of stay has expired. (This will put you in the international student category and will make you ineligible for state aid)
- If your parent or guardian has a MD license and lives in VA, make sure they get a VA drive privilege card (will make proving residency easier)
- If your parents want to learn more about this process encourage them to join our Parents Committee!

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Final Tip:

Talk to your Mentors! They can help you navigate through the process or connect you with someone who can help!

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