

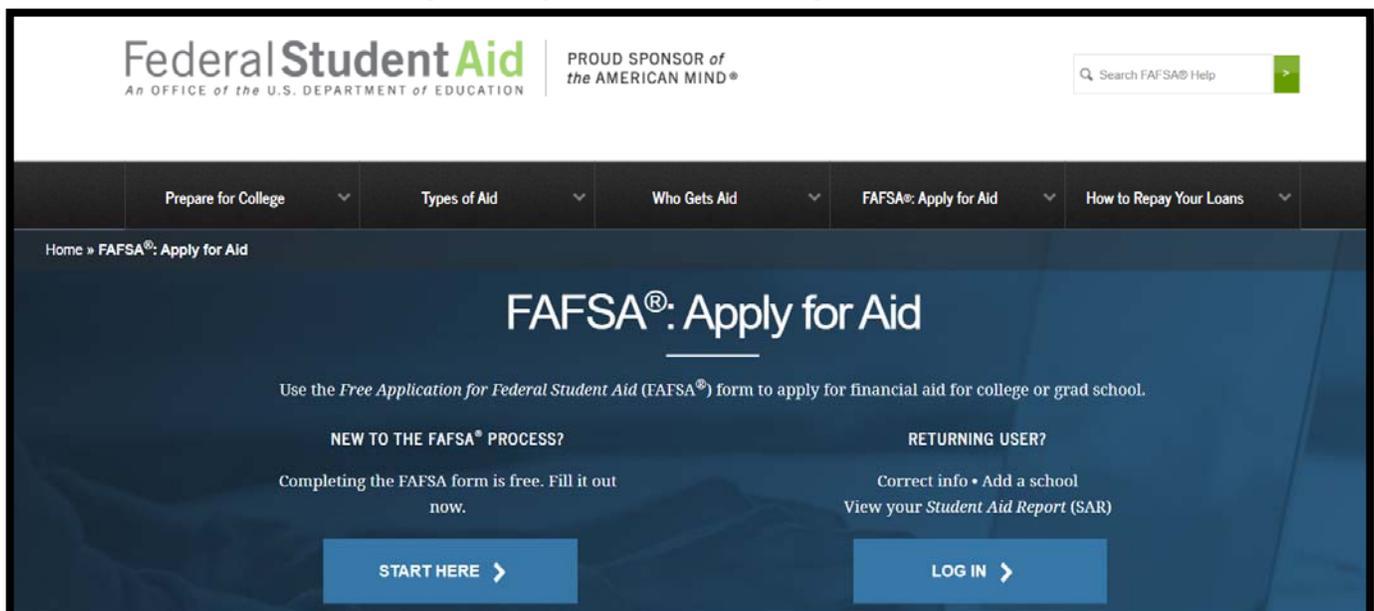
FAFSA, Scholarships and Grants

Fill out a FAFSA! All opportunities with Georgia ETV (and many other resources) require filling out a FAFSA on a yearly basis

FAFSA—Free Application for Federal Student Aid

<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

Select "Start Here" and complete the application to gain access to financial aid. Make sure to save along the way and remember login credentials.

A screenshot of the FAFSA website homepage. At the top, it says "Federal Student Aid" and "PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND". Below that is a navigation menu with options like "Prepare for College", "Types of Aid", "Who Gets Aid", "FAFSA: Apply for Aid", and "How to Repay Your Loans". The main heading is "FAFSA: Apply for Aid". Below this, there are two columns: "NEW TO THE FAFSA PROCESS?" with a "START HERE" button, and "RETURNING USER?" with a "LOG IN" button. The text explains that the form is free and provides instructions for new and returning users.

Students will need help completing!! Be prepared to call and email counselors, support staff, administrators and others. This will take some time. Start early!!

There are several questions on the FAFSA that students with experience in foster care will need to be considered "independent". When a student is considered "independent" they may qualify for specific financial resources

Question #53 (in section 2) on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid asks: "At any time since you turned age 13, were both of your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?" If the answer is yes, the student will be considered "independent" and will then qualify for a number of financial resources

A close-up photograph of the FAFSA form. The text "FAFSA" is prominent at the top. Below it, it says "FREE APPLICATION for FEDERAL" and "Step One (Student): For questions". There are several input fields for personal information, including "Your full name (exactly as it appears on your s", "I, Last name", "mailing address", and "and street".

FAFSA, Scholarships and Grants

Type of Aid

Grants Financial aid, often based on financial need that does not need to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund)

Examples

Pell Grant, Hope Grant, Zell Miller Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Academic Competitiveness Grant, SMART Grant

<https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-grants/>

<http://www.collegescholarships.org/grants/federal.htm>

Scholarships Money awarded to students based on academic achievements and personal attributes to help pay for education expenses

Scholarships generally do not have to be repaid

HOPE, Zell Miller, NSORO, Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Scholarship America's Dream Award, Gates Millennium Scholars, The National Foster Parent Association

<https://embarkgeorgia.org/students/scholarships>

<https://www.gafutures.org/scholarship-search>

Loans- Money borrowed from a bank or institution that **MUST** be paid back with interest

AVOID Loans if at all possible!!!!

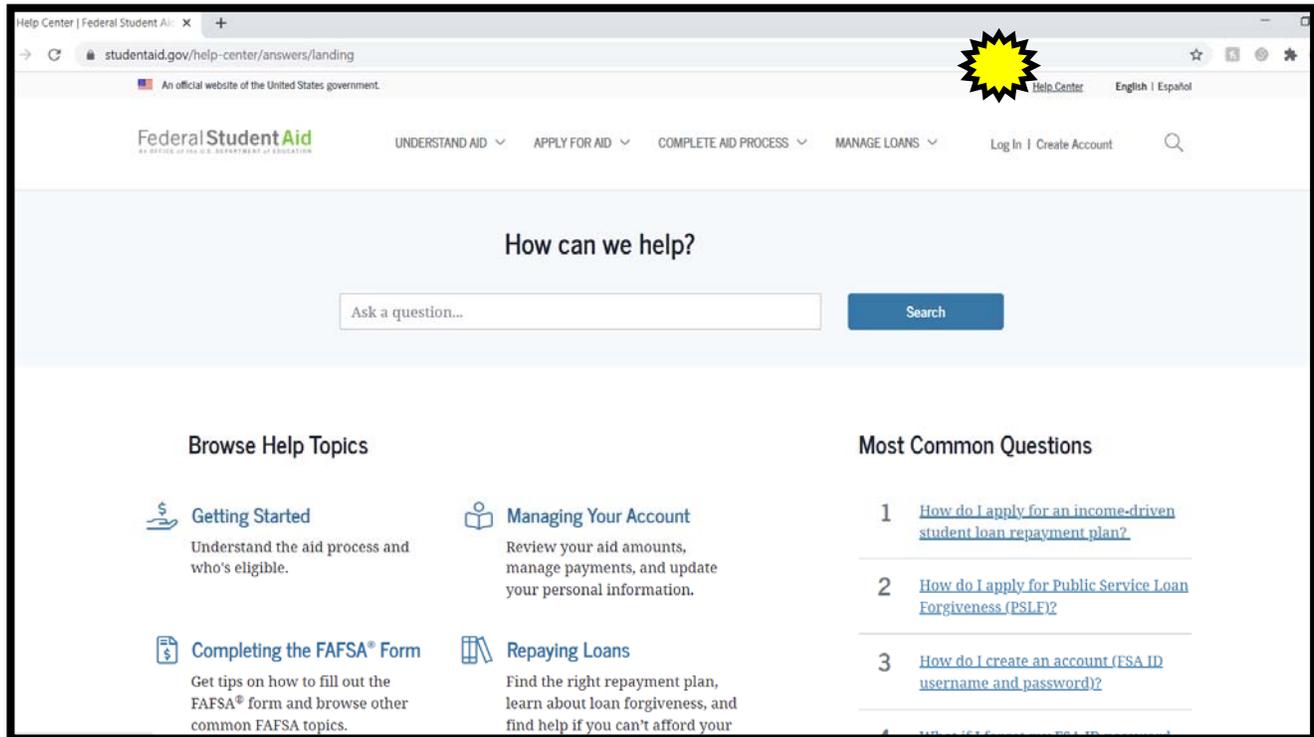
Federal student loans will likely have a better interest rate than loans from credit lenders, but beware:

In 2017, students averaged over \$37,000 in debt. ETV and other resources hope to keep students from major financial struggle

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans>

FAFSA, Scholarships and Grants

Navigate to the FAFSA Help Center for further support!



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Help Center landing page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Federal Student Aid logo and menu items: UNDERSTAND AID, APPLY FOR AID, COMPLETE AID PROCESS, and MANAGE LOANS. There are also links for Log In and Create Account. A yellow starburst graphic highlights the Help Center link in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, the main heading is "How can we help?" followed by a search bar with the placeholder text "Ask a question..." and a "Search" button. The page is divided into two columns: "Browse Help Topics" and "Most Common Questions".

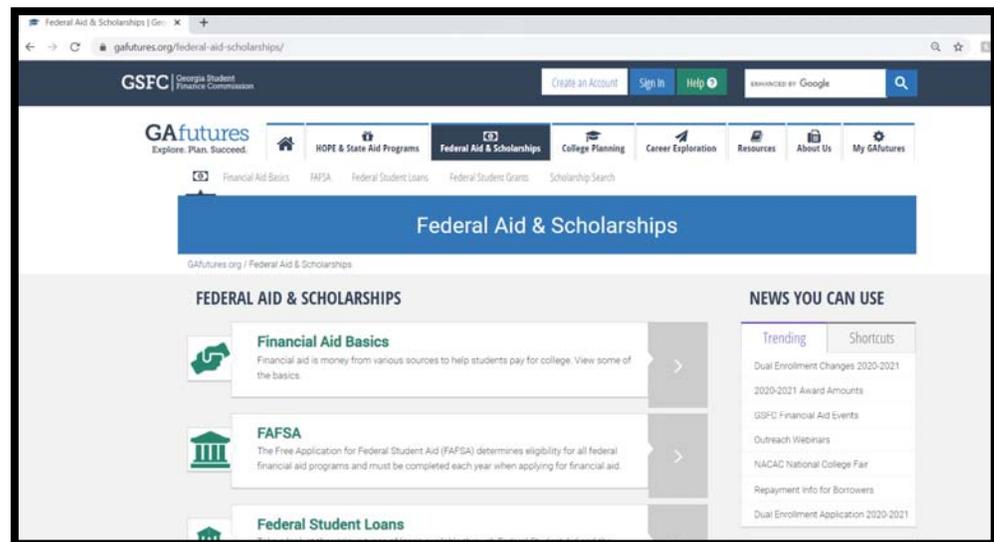
Browse Help Topics

- Getting Started**
Understand the aid process and who's eligible.
- Managing Your Account**
Review your aid amounts, manage payments, and update your personal information.
- Completing the FAFSA® Form**
Get tips on how to fill out the FAFSA® form and browse other common FAFSA topics.
- Repaying Loans**
Find the right repayment plan, learn about loan forgiveness, and find help if you can't afford your

Most Common Questions

- [How do I apply for an income-driven student loan repayment plan?](#)
- [How do I apply for Public Service Loan Forgiveness \(PSLF\)?](#)
- [How do I create an account \(FSA ID username and password\)?](#)

The GAFutures site can also help!



The screenshot shows the GAFutures website, which is part of the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). The page is titled "Federal Aid & Scholarships" and features a navigation menu with options like HOPE & State Aid Programs, Federal Aid & Scholarships, College Planning, Career Exploration, Resources, About Us, and My GAFutures. Below the navigation, there are sections for "FEDERAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS" and "NEWS YOU CAN USE".

FEDERAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Financial Aid Basics**
Financial aid is money from various sources to help students pay for college. View some of the basics.
- FAFSA**
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines eligibility for all federal financial aid programs and must be completed each year when applying for financial aid.
- Federal Student Loans**

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- Trending
- Shortcuts
- Dual Enrollment Changes 2020-2021
- 2020-2021 Award Amounts
- GSFC Financial Aid Events
- Outreach Webinars
- NACAC National College Fair
- Repayment Info for Borrowers
- Dual Enrollment Application 2020-2021