



CLASS OF 2025 SENIOR

The Class of 2025 has had **two new graduation** requirements put in place by the Oklahoma Department of Education.

- **US Citizenship test.** This was to be taken during the student's US Government class in their 10th grade year. It must be passed with a 60% or higher and students may take it as many times as needed.
 - 12th grade students who missed this assessment will take it sometime this school year.
- **Complete FAFSA for the school year 25-26.**
 - Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education, students shall complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). [Title 70 O.S. § 1210.508-6](#)
 - **What is FAFSA?** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is an online form that state and private institutions, career technology centers and some proprietary schools use to determine a student's financial aid eligibility. This will include federal and state programs such as grants, work-study funds, scholarships, and federal student loans.
 - **WHY?** - It was shown that in 2023 \$4 billion in pell grants went unclaimed. Other states have made filling FAFSA a graduation requirement and the data has shown that more high school graduates are attending a postsecondary institution because they find that it is financially attainable. (**Postsecondary opportunities:** Colleges, universities, community colleges, technology centers, career schools.)
 - **FAFSA or opt-out forms** must be completed prior to a student's high school graduation.
 - Opt-out: <https://sde.ok.gov/collegecareer>
 - Printed forms can be found in the counselor's office.

Step-by-step RESOURCES...Lots of links, tutorials. Pretty much step by step instructions.

littleaxeps.org/o/lahs -----“Counselor News” Tab menu (arrow down)-----FAFSA instructions.

Step 1: Obtaining a FSA ID for students and guardians. It will take 1-2 weeks for this to be sent back to the individuals once completed and must be done before completing the FAFSA application.

Step 2: FAFSA application opens Dec. 1st. The earlier you apply the better regarding financial aid.

FAFSA

For the **Class of 2025**
Filling for **25-26 FAFSA**
Using **2023 Tax Returns**

[FAFSA Tutorial](#) -English
[FAFSA Tutorial](#)- Spanish



Step One - Create an FSA ID: Must complete first.

-The [Creating a StudentAid.gov PowerPoint](#) will guide you and your parent(s) through the ins and outs of the account creation process.

-[Worksheet to keep track of your accounts + steps:](#)

The [Creating a StudentAid.gov Account Without a Social Security Number PowerPoint](#) will guide parents and spouses of students through the ins and outs of the account creation process.

Step Two - Apply: Application is set to open December 1, 2024

The [Items Needed to Complete a FAFSA](#) flyer gives parents and students a clear idea of how to better prepare to fill out the FAFSA.

[Finish the FAFSA in Five Steps](#), also available in [Spanish](#), breaks the FAFSA process into five simple steps and includes information about the materials needed to complete the form, tools available through online submission and more. It also provides information about additional financial aid resources and includes *FAFSA Facts*, which offers students and parents must-know facts about the FAFSA including useful terms, when to apply and how to get the most assistance throughout the process.

The [Dependency Questionnaire](#) lists the questions used to determine your dependency status on the FAFSA. If you answer "Yes" to any one of these questions, you'll be considered an independent student and will not need to include your parents' information on the FAFSA.