Student Achievement

DEARBORN SCHOOLS

Students First: Inspire, Educate, Celebrate

Dear Parents/Guardian,

As a requirement for graduation, all students must complete and submit the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid** (FAFSA) effective with the class of 2026. This ensures that students are aware of and have access to potential financial aid opportunities for post-secondary education and career training. Below are exemptions for families that may not be able to complete the FAFSA.

- **Parental or Guardian Waiver:**
  - The student's parent or legal guardian, or the student if they are 18 years of age or older, an emancipated minor, or an unaccompanied youth, submits a **Parental Waiver Form** to the school exempting the student from completing the FAFSA. Universal FAFSA Waiver - Michigan
- **Privacy Concerns:**
  - The student is unable to complete the FAFSA due to privacy concerns.
- **Lack of Parental Support & Opt-Out Option:**
  - The student's parent or legal guardian is unresponsive, refuses to sign the parental waiver, or is unable to sign.
  - The student does not meet the requirements to complete the FAFSA as an independent student.
  - The student voluntarily agrees to opt out of completing the FAFSA.

Graduation Eligibility:

- Aside from the FAFSA requirement or an approved exemption, the student must meet all other graduation requirements and remain on track to graduate.

Implementation & Support:

- The district will provide resources and support to assist students and families in completing the FAFSA, including information sessions, guidance counselor assistance, and access to FAFSA completion workshops.
- Exemption requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure all students have equitable access to financial aid opportunities while respecting individual circumstances.

Regards,

Diana Shakir