

AID YEAR _____

TAX YEAR _____

NEED FINANCIAL AID? FILL OUT THE FAFSA!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid determines eligibility for Pell Grant, FSEOG, and federal loans such as the Parent PLUS, Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans.

- Go to www.fafsa.gov, click *Login*, click *I am the student*, then click *create one* to establish an FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID) and password.

FYI: Parents of dependent students will also have to establish an FSA ID/password.

How do I know if I'm a dependent student?

EASY! If you don't meet any of the following criteria,

you will have to include your parents' tax information on your FAFSA:

The student is 24 years of age or older.

The student is married.

The student has a child, children, or Legal Dependents in which they provide more than half of their financial support.

The student is considered an Orphan, Ward of the Court, or in foster care since age 13 (with official court documentation).

The student is in Legal Guardianship (with official court documentation) to someone other than parents.

The student is homeless or in danger of homelessness (with official documentation).

The student is on Active Duty in the Military or a Veteran of the United States Armed Forces.

The student has been admitted to a Master's or Doctoral program.

- Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and fill out the FAFSA (choose the appropriate aid year- FAFSA timeframe encompasses fall/spring/summer).
- Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to pull tax information back into the FAFSA is the best way to avoid being chosen for the Verification process. You are eligible to use the tool within either 2-3 weeks of E-Filing your taxes or within 6-7 weeks of mailing taxes.
- Add the Georgia Highlands school code of 009507.
- Sign the FAFSA electronically with your FSA ID/password and submit (dependent students must also have parents sign with their FSA ID/password).
- Within 5-7 business days, follow up with the GHC Office of Financial Aid at finaid@highlands.edu to check the status. You can also monitor the status of your FAFSA by checking your Score account on the Check Financial Aid Status page for the appropriate aid year (FAFSA timeframe encompasses fall/spring/summer).
- If you're chosen for the Verification process, you will need to create an account at highlands.verifymyfafsa.com. Additional documentation such as tax return transcripts or 1040s, W2s, and/or Non-Filer statements for the appropriate tax year may be needed (available to print at www.irs.gov, or request by mail). To contact the IRS Office, call (844) 545-5640.

Non-U.S.Citizens may be eligible for aid.

Please check here to see if you are eligible to receive aid: studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/non-us-citizens

FAFSA Priority Deadlines: March 1-summer July 1 for-fall November 1-spring