

Free Application for Federal Student Aid FAFSA

Dear Pine View Seniors and Parents,

The 2024-2025 revised and simplified *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* will open in December.

We *strongly* recommend that all families complete the *FAFSA* regardless of their financial circumstances, and that it be submitted <u>as early as possible</u>.

There are significant advantages to completing the FAFSA. First. Colleges require FAFSA completion for financial aid eligibility. This includes need-based grants, work study opportunities and federal loans, and in many cases, *merit-based* scholarship opportunities.

Second. Parents and students completing the FAFSA *early* avail themselves of grant and scholarship funding *first*. This assures that financial aid award letters are received earlier and can thus be reviewed, compared, and even negotiated. Those that wait to apply, will receive their award letter later; making college comparisons and decisions more difficult.

Finally. Completion of the FAFSA may actually confer other advantages in terms of college *admission*.

Once the revised FAFSA is launched resources for completing it will appear on the student aid.gov website located here: <u>https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa</u>