**FAFSA Applications Are Open.**



The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) opened on Oct. 1 — and if you're planning on going to college next year, or even just toying with the idea of taking classes, you should fill it out.

Yes, it's a government form, but it's free, and it's the first step in getting financial aid that could be the key to going to college. COVID-19 makes everything more tricky and filling out the FAFSA is no exception — but even if your family has lost a lot of income during the pandemic, there's still hope. Colleges want you to come to their schools, and this form could be the first step in getting there.