

Financial Aid

How to Apply for Financial Aid

Financial aid is money for college provided by the United States taxpayers to ensure that everyone who wants a college education has the resources to help pay for their college expenses. To apply, you must complete the FAFSA online. The FAFSA is the first step in the application process for all financial aid programs offered at DVC.

1) To apply, go to

WWW.FAFSA.GOV

2) Apply for a PIN

You (and one parent if you are a dependent student) must apply for a PIN. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records, so you should never give your PIN to anyone, including commercial services that offer to help you complete your FAFSA. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place.



3) Complete and Submit the FAFSA

After you apply for a PIN number, go back to the main page and click the [“Start a New FAFSA”](#) link. Make sure to select the appropriate academic year. For instance, the 2014-2015 FAFSA is the application you want to complete if you want to apply for Fall 2014, Spring 2015, and Summer 2015 semesters. You may start applying for the FAFSA on January 1st of every year for the upcoming academic year that starts in the Fall. Ideally, you want to submit your FAFSA by **March 2nd** prior to the start of the academic year. You may still apply after March 2nd but priority is given to students who completed the FAFSA by this date. Please note that the FAFSA application must be renewed every year. To complete the FAFSA, you will need to gather your (and your parents’ if you are a dependent student) Social Security Number, driver’s license, income tax returns, W-2 forms, bank statements and investment records. Also, make sure to add **DVC’s school code (001191)** on your FAFSA. If you do not add DVC as one of your colleges on the FAFSA, our office will not receive a copy of your application from the Department of Education.

4) Check your DVC Insite Portal email account for further instructions.

Completing the FAFSA is only the first step. Approximately 2-3 weeks after you submit the FAFSA and Department of Education has determined that you are eligible, DVC’s Financial Aid Office will send a follow up email to your InSite Portal student email account with further instructions and a list of requirements that you have to complete in order to continue with the application process. All financial Aid students are required to check their **DVC EMAIL ACCOUNT** on a regular basis in order to receive instructions, letters, file status updates, announcements, and notifications from the Financial Aid Office. For more information regarding the application process and timeline, please visit our website:

www.dvc.edu/financialaid