

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET

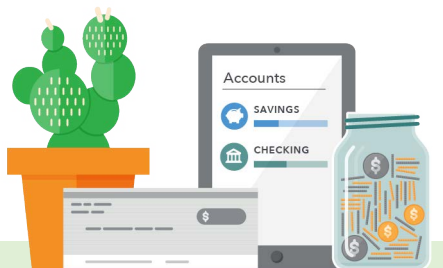
# Learning how FAFSA works

To apply for federal student aid, you need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year you're enrolled in a post-secondary program.

The Federal Student Aid Estimator tool helps you estimate the type and amount of federal financial aid you may be eligible for to help pay for college or career school.

## Instructions

- 1 Calculate the date of birth for the student in your assigned scenario.
- 2 Go to the online Federal Student Aid Estimator at [StudentAid.gov/aid-estimator](https://StudentAid.gov/aid-estimator).
- 3 Enter the key information from the scenario and record the results in the worksheet's "Estimated federal financial aid packages" section on page 2.
- 4 Share your scenarios and results with the class.
- 5 Take notes on the worksheet while other groups share their scenarios and results.
- 6 Answer the questions in the "Comparing and contrasting financial aid packages" section on page 3.
- 7 Answer the reflection question.



## Estimated federal financial aid packages

Four imaginary students are applying for financial aid to attend Pretend University in New Mexico.

Check the box of the scenario you were assigned.	Brooklyn	Carmen	Mario	Noah
Calculate date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) Month/day/year				
What's the potential Pell Grant amount?				
How much could this student earn from an Average Work-Study job?				
What's the potential Maximum Direct Loan amount?				
What's the total federal aid available for this student?				
What's this student's college cost after all federal aid is applied? (Cost of attendance - Total federal aid)				
What's the student aid index (SAI) number?  NOTE: The Student Aid Index (SAI) number will reflect your eligibility for federal aid programs based on student income, parent income, and other applicable assets. SAI assesses your financial need and is not a dollar amount.				
What are key details about this student and their family that may influence the student's financial aid?				

## Comparing and contrasting financial aid packages

1. What similarities did you notice about the students' federal aid packages?  
What may be the reasons for these similarities?
2. In what ways did the aid packages differ? What may be the reasons for these differences?

## Reflection question

What are some steps you can take now to plan for paying for college or career school?