



What is the FAFSA?

ROCKER:

So I got accepted to that tribal college up north that I told you about.

FRIEND:

You mean the one where your "girlfriend" is going?

ROCKER:

Keep it down! But yeah.

FRIEND:

Their music program is sweet. Well that and the female population is twice the size of the male population my friend. That puts the odds in your favor.

ROCKER:

Well that's completely out of my budget.

FRIEND:

Well, did you fill out your FAFSA?

ROCKER:

My what?

FRIEND:

FAFSA! It's that form you fill out that shows how much you can contribute to your college expenses. The school then looks at it and lets you know what loans, grants, and work-study programs are available to help you with the rest.

ROCKER:

Do I even qualify for that?

FRIEND:

Anybody can fill out the FAFSA. It means Free Application for Federal Student Aid. My brother filled out the FAFSA last year. The college he was accepted to got the form and sent him an award letter showing the grants and loans they would offer him.

ROCKER:

Sounds easy.

FRIEND:

Yeah, like writing your first love song.

ROCKER:

Psh. That was cake.

FRIEND:

Yeah, whatever. As I recall it took you all of five minutes.

ROCKER:
What can I say; I'm good at what I do.

FRIEND:
Psh. Yeah, okay.

ROCKER:
Okay back to this FAFSA; let's Google it.

FRIEND:
Let's go look it up.

ROCKER:
Let's Google it.

FRIEND:
Let's do it.

ROCKER:
Let's Google it.

FRIEND:
You already said that; let's go.

ROCKER:
Let's Google it.

FRIEND:
FAFSA qualifications... Where are you... oh, alright, here we go.

Are you registered with a selective service?

ROCKER:
Do online wars count? We both know when it comes to video game wars I dominate.

FRIEND:
Dude, you're not even that good.

ROCKER:
That's was rude.

FRIEND:
Well...it's true. Okay. Moving on. Here's the stuff it says you should do before completing the form. It says you need to determine your dependency status.

ROCKER:
Dependent, what's that mean?

FRIEND:

Most kids who live with their parents are considered dependent and you're definitely dependent. Your mom still buys your underwear!

ROCKER:
Ok. What else?

FRIEND:
Ok, you need your social security and driver's license numbers, and the total amount of your parent's assets, that kind of stuff.

ROCKER:
See that part where it says I need a PIN before I fill out the form? What does that mean? What's a PIN?

FRIEND:
Ugh, oh, right here. It says a PIN is used as the electronic signature for you and your parents to use before you submit your form.

ROCKER:
How much money will I get from filling it out?

FRIEND:
The financial aid you qualify for is based on financial need, which, right here, says is the difference between your college expenses and how much you and your family can contribute to those costs.

ROCKER:
Well, my parents probably won't be able to help out much.

FRIEND:
Well the FAFSA is the first step.

ROCKER:
Well this isn't so bad. It even looks a little easier than writing a love song!

FRIEND:
Apparently you even get a break for following your "girlfriend" to college!

ROCKER:
Really?

FRIEND:
No!

ROCKER:
Very funny.

FRIEND:
So... uh, did you catch that killer touchdown on the game last night?

ROCKER:
What are you talking about?

FRIEND:
Michael Jordan might be the best football player of all time.

ROCKER:
Ha. What do you mean?

FRIEND:
Did you see that?

ROCKER:
Oh Yeah

FRIEND:
Right? Just gorgeous.

NARRATOR:
All though the FAFSA can be intimidating, if you have the right information, it's fairly easy to complete.

To get started, visit fafsa.gov. It is the only site where you can apply for free. The FAFSA or Free Application for Federal Student Aid is about figuring out the finances or money part of going to college. You'll need to know your family's information about income, assets and wages.

First, you will need to determine whose information to report on the application.

Dependent students must report their parents' income and assets as well as their own.

Independent students report their income and assets. If the student is married, the spouse's income and assets are also reported.

If you haven't started the application process, check out fafsa.gov for federal, state and college application deadlines.

Don't wait! It's good to know how much assistance you will get or need!

Find a College

ndus.edu

nd-can.com

aihec.org

college.gov

Pay for College

fafsa.gov

nd-can.com
studentaid.ed.gov

Prepare for College

nd-can.com
actstudent.org
collegeboard.org

For more information, call 1.800.554.2717.

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