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| **Should I Fill out the TAFSA or the FAFSA?** |  |  |  |
| Status | **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** | **Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)** |  |
| I am a U.S. citizen | √ |   |  |
| I am a permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551) | √ |   |  |
| I am a conditional permanent resident with visa type I-551C | √ |   |  |
| I am an eligible noncitizen with an Arrival/Departure Record (I-94) showing one of the following: * Refugee
* Asylum granted
* Parolee (for a minimum of one year)
* Cuban-Haitian entrant
 | √ |   |  |
| I do not meet one of the statuses above; however, I have been classified as a Texas resident and therefore am eligible to pay the Texas in-state tuition rate. My classification as a Texas resident is NOT due to an in-state scholarship or assistantship. |  |       √ |  |

**FACTS!**

* Applying for Financial Aid **EARLY** may result in more money.
* **Non-Citizens** may qualify for Financial Aid- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/non-us-citizens>
* Financial Aid packets will not be the same for all schools.
* The amount of Financial Aid you receive can vary in many different ways such as the school’s success rate, person's living situation, parents who support children over 50% of the time, parent’s taxes, your state, the time period you apply, etc.
* Mistakes on the FAFSA/TASFA will delay your application causing verification and could also cause a decrease in the amount you receive. That being said apply in enough time to avoid missing deadlines.
* If you miss the deadline it is not too late to apply for FAFSA, However you will not receive as much.
* **IMPORTANT**: Loans accepted come with **interest**. Interest added may start while you are in school or it may also start when you graduate. These must be paid back! (Make sure you understand Loans and the interest added on to the loan you agree to, **before you agree to it**).