**Federal Work-Study Program**

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program helps students finance the costs of postsecondary education by providing funds for part-time employment. As a student, you can receive FWS funds at nearly 3,400 participating postsecondary institutions.

Institutions apply for FWS funding annually by submitting a Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) to the U.S. Department of Education (ED). The ED awards funds based on the institution’s previous funding level and student need. Schools or employers normally pay up to 50 percent of a student’s FWS wages. In cases such as FWS-funded reading or mathematics tutors, the ED can cover up to 100 percent. Hourly wages can’t be less than the federal minimum wage.

If you are a student, you can be employed by the institution itself, a federal, state, or local public agency, a private nonprofit organization, or a private for-profit organization. Institutions must use at least 7 percent of their FWS funds to support students working in community service jobs, such as tutors, or for emergency preparedness and response.

When applying to FWS for assistance, you should file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete FAFSA online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. For more information on the student aid award process, review the [Federal Pell Grant Program](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html).

**Eligibility**

Students and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) can apply.

IHEs can apply for funds to award undergraduate, vocational, and graduate students enrolled at participating schools.

**How to Apply for FWS**

If you are a student who wants to apply to the FWS Program, you should follow these steps.

1. **Prepare Your Documents**

Put together the documents you need to support your application.

* Your Social Security Number
* Your parents’ Social Security numbers
* Your driver’s license number if you have one
* Your Alien Registration number if you are not a U.S. citizen
* Tax information for you (and your spouse, if you are married), and for your parents if you are a dependent student
* Records of your untaxed income, such as child support received, interest income, and veterans noneducation benefits, for you, and for your parents if you are a dependent student
* Asset information

1. **File Your FAFSA Form**

You should complete your [FAFSA form](https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa) as early as possible to improve your chances of getting an FWS position.

1. **Review Your Student Aid Report**

After you submit your FAFSA form, you will receive a Student Aid Report. You should review your report and correct any errors.

1. **Respond to Offer**

If you are offered an FWS position, accept the position to receive your funding.

1. **Receive Your Aid**

You will receive funding when you start your FWS position.

**Apply**

Start your application.

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| Apply for the Federal Work-Study Program |