

State Representative  
**MARK M. GILLEN**  
128<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

You can fill out the  
FAFSA online by visiting:  
**FAFSA.ed.gov**

More information about the  
FAFSA, financial aid programs  
through PHEAA and the  
financial aid process in general  
are available online at  
**PHEAA.org**



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It's **TIME** TO  
**CONSIDER**



YOUR  
**COLLEGE  
FINANCIAL  
NEEDS**

**FOR STUDENTS PLANNING TO ATTEND A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR,  
NOW IS THE TIME TO START APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID.**



The first step in that process is obtaining and filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

If you want to apply for a Pennsylvania State Grant or other financial aid programs offered by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), you must fill out and file a FAFSA. The deadline to be considered for a state grant award is May 1.

Both PHEAA and school financial aid offices use the FAFSA to determine what kind of financial aid package to offer students and their families, including the amount of grants, scholarships, loans, work study and other awards. Completing a FAFSA by the appropriate deadline is an essential step in the financial aid application process.

## **FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR, THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES APPLY:**

**MAY 1** - For all returning college students and first-time students who are enrolling in a baccalaureate degree program.

**AUGUST 1** - For students who are enrolling in a business, trade or technical school, or a two-year program at a community or junior college.

These deadlines are important to remember so that you can prepare and apply for aid as soon as possible. Most colleges and universities have limited financial aid money available, so while the amount of your Pennsylvania State Grant may not change as long as you return your FAFSA before the deadline, the amount of financial aid you are offered by your chosen school may change the longer you wait to apply.

In addition, while PHEAA will still consider students who turn in their FAFSA forms after the May 1 or August 1 deadline, students can only receive state grant awards if money remains available.