

## **INTRO TO FAFSA – INFO SHEET**

### **What is FAFSA?**

FAFSA is:

- An acronym for **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**
- An application you will use to apply for the federal student aid programs offered by the Department of Education
- Used to determine some state and institutional aid
- FREE of cost

### **Will ES provide assistance for FAFSA completion?**

Yes, there are several options for assistance with FAFSA completion:

- **ETHS** Financial Aid Night, Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30pm, ETHS Auditorium.
- **ES** individual meetings for FAFSA assistance starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. Email or text Caryn Summer, [csummer@evanston scholar.org](mailto:csummer@evanston scholar.org), 847-274-5423 to set up an appointment.
- **ETHS** FAFSA Completion Assistance Day, Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm – 7:00pm, ETHS HUB (W220). ETHS, ISAC and ES staff will schedule individual hour long meetings with ETHS families to assist with FAFSA completion.
- **ISACorp Member** will be in The Hub one day/week throughout the school year to answer questions about FAFSA. Schedule and contact information will be available soon.

### **When should I start FAFSA?**

- Any time after October 1. To start your FAFSA, go to [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). **Please DO NOT SUBMIT** your FAFSA until an ETHS, ISAC or ES representative has been reviewed your FAFSA with you and your parent or guardian.

### **When should I submit FAFSA?**

- Once an ETHS, ISAC or ES representative has reviewed your FAFSA with you and your parent or guardian.

### **What documents will I need to complete my FAFSA?**

- Social Security numbers for you and your parent(s). Be sure that they are correct!
- If you are not a U.S. citizen, your Alien Registration Number.
- 2017 federal tax returns for you (student), if you filed.
- 2017 federal tax returns for your parent or parents.
- W-2 forms and other records of money earned in 2017 for you and your parent(s).
- Banking statements and records of investments (if applicable) for you and your parent(s).
- Records of untaxed income.
- An FSA ID to sign electronically. See FSA ID – Info Sheet.
- List of colleges to which you are applying.

### **What can I do in advance of the October 10<sup>th</sup> ETHS FAFSA Completion Day?**

- Collect the documents listed above. Keep all of your documents in the attached envelope, even after you have completed FAFSA. You may need these again to complete the CSS PROFILE for some colleges.
- Create FSA IDs for you and your parent who will sign your FAFSA. See attached FSA ID Info Sheet.
- **For parents**, ES will provide FSA ID assistance during the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Workshop.
- Store your user name and password on the FSA ID Tracker or in a place where it can be easily accessed. You will need it frequently throughout your college years.