



Arkansas Welding Academy

"BURN TO LEARN"

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COE #346200, ASBPCE #581, OPEID #04274100

Website: www.arkansasweldingacademy.com

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

High School Counselors and Student Mentors:

We hope you and your students are safe and healthy during this time.

Arkansas Welding Academy Financial Aid Department has put together a packet to assist you in guiding students through the FAFSA process. We believe that this will become a valuable resource for you and your colleagues.

When applying for college students should pay close attention to not only whether a post-secondary institution can accept federal aid i.e. is federally accredited by the U.S. Department of Education but also whether or not the program they wish to go through is accredited by the relevant accrediting body. As an example, Engineering programs must be accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for the student to be eligible to take their licensing exam upon graduation which is known as the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE).

We are always here to assist if needed. Should you need an AWA team to come out and talk about financial aid, the welding career, or just college in general please let us know. We also offer FAFSA completion workshops, where our FA administrators can come to your campus and guide a group of students through the FAFSA process.

Keep up the great work and we look forward to hearing from you!

Regards;

Andrew Obenshain 10/30/2020

Andrew Obenshain

AWA Compliance Officer/Engineer EI

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FAFSA® FILING TIME

STUDENTS: You must complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) to apply for federal student aid—that’s government money for college or career school. Financial aid offices use information from the FAFSA to determine whether you are eligible to receive federal grants, loans, or work-study funds. States and schools also use the information from the FAFSA to determine whether you qualify for additional aid. In fact, some schools will not consider a student for the school’s merit scholarships (i.e., scholarships awarded based on a student’s grades, talents, or achievements) until the student has submitted a FAFSA. So be sure to fill out a FAFSA even if you think you will not qualify for federal aid.

DEADLINES: The FAFSA becomes available on Oct. 1 for the next school year. If you want to be considered for aid from your state or college, you must meet its FAFSA deadline. State deadlines: If you plan to go to college at Arkansas Welding Academy in the fall, there are NO financial aid deadline though you should submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after Oct. 1. Note that if you are planning on starting college on or after July 1 please complete the FAFSA for the latest year. For example, 20/21 and 21/22 are open 20/21 is for attendance from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and 21/22 is for attendance from July 1, 2021 through June 20, 2022.

NOTE: ADDING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TO YOUR FAFSA DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU APPLIED TO THE INSTITUTION. EACH COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HAS A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINES.

TO DO:

() Get free information and help from your school counselor, the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend, or the U.S. Department of Education at fafsa.gov or 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). Free help is available at any time during the application process.

() If you think the Social Security Administration might have the wrong name or date of birth for you in its records, go to www.ssa.gov to find out how to correct any errors. Your information must be correct before your FAFSA can be processed.

() If you’re filing the FAFSA online, it helps to create an FSA ID ahead of time. This username and password is used to confirm your identity when accessing your financial aid information and electronically signing your federal student aid documents. Your FSA ID is unique; it must be your own and not a parent’s. You must create your FSA ID yourself. To create your FSA ID, and for more information, go to StudentAid.gov/fsaid.

For a step-by-step guide, watch “How to Create an FSA ID” on the “FAFSA: Apply for Aid” playlist at www.YouTube.com/FederalStudentAid.

() Collect the documents needed to apply. You may be able to have the FAFSA automatically retrieve information from your tax return; otherwise, you'll need your federal tax documents or your income records.

() Submit the FAFSA in time to meet school and state aid deadlines if applicable. Here are the ways you can complete the FAFSA:

- Apply online (the fastest and easiest way) by going to fafsa.gov.

- Download a PDF version of the FAFSA at fafsa.gov. Fill out the PDF and mail it to the address on the form. (You also can visit www.edpubs.gov or call 1-800-4-FED-AID to request a print-out of the PDF FAFSA.)

- Ask the financial aid staff at the college you plan to attend whether you may fill out the FAFSA with their help and have them submit it for you.

() Review your Student Aid Report (SAR)—the result of your FAFSA. You will receive your SAR by email or by mail. If necessary, make changes or corrections and submit your information for reprocessing. Your complete, correct SAR will contain your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)—the index number used by colleges to determine how much federal student aid you can receive. If you do not receive your SAR within three weeks of submitting your FAFSA, go to fafsa.gov and log in to check the status of your FAFSA; you may also call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

() Your school might request additional information from you. Be sure to respond by any deadlines, or you might not receive federal student aid.

() All applicants: Contact the financial aid office if you have any questions about the aid being offered.

() First-time applicants: Review award letters from schools to compare amounts and types of aid being offered. Decide which school to attend based on a combination of

(a) how well the school suits your needs and

(b) its affordability after all aid is considered.

() Keep in touch with the school you choose to find out when tuition and fees are due, whether your financial aid will cover those expenses completely, and how much (if any) extra financial aid will come directly to you once your tuition and fees are paid.

() Pay special attention to letters or emails from schools, and contact the financial aid office if you do not understand what the school is offering you.

() Follow all directions on the FAFSA and on any communications from your school.

PARENTS TO DO:

() Complete the “Students: To Do” list on pages 1 AND 2 of this checklist with your child. If possible, file the FAFSA online—it’s much faster and easier, and your information is safe because it’s encrypted (i.e., we use a mathematical formula to scramble the data).

() If you’re filing online, create your own FSA ID to be able to sign your child’s FAFSA electronically. Your FSA ID must be separate from your child’s and created by you (just as your child must create his or her own FSA ID). To create your FSA ID, go to StudentAid.gov/fsaid.

For help with the FSA ID, watch “FAFSA and FSA ID Tips for Parents” in the “FAFSA: Apply for Aid” playlist at www.YouTube.com/FederalStudentAid and at StudentAid.gov/fafsa.

() Examine the bill from the school your child chooses and make sure you understand all the fees and how they will be paid (e.g., through scholarships, student loans, etc.).

FAFSA[®] Document Checklist

() Your Social Security number and your parent’s (parents’) Social Security number(s) if you are providing parent information. Note Parent’s information is required if you are determined to be a dependent. For Example will not be turning 24 during year of FAFSA application, do not have children or other dependent(s) you are providing more than fifty percent living expenses, are not an emancipated minor, are not a military veteran or serving in our military etc. Parent(s) refusing to provide information is NOT a reason to establish Independent status.

() Your Alien Registration number if you are not a U.S. Citizen.

() Information on savings, investments, and business assets for yourself (and for your parent[s] if you are providing parent information)