FAST Aid Parent User Guide



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Opening Page

🤤 fast				
✓ Log in / Log out		Financial Aid Applica	tion	
Instructions		FAST Demonstration Scho	ol *	
Account Settings Applicant Info				
 Household Info 				
Dependent Info				
Real Estate / Vehicles		IMPORTANT! If this is not the school to which you are applying, go to your school's homepage and click on the FAST logo. START APPLICATION English Espanol עברית Français		
Assets / Liabilities				
▶ Income	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Expenses				
School Questions				
Letter / Agreement				
Application Status		All Applicants' Deadline - 8/2/2022 Returning Families' Deadline - 10/11/2022		
Payment				
Quick Processing		New Families' Deadline - 3/1/2023	~	
Downloadable Works	heet			
Downloadable User G	Guide			
Help Center				
FAQ - Sending Tax	es			
Navigation Bar	Paper Worksheet	◆ Start Here	Resume Applicatio	
Use the navigation bar to move back and forth	If you want to compile your information	If you are divorced or separated, please read	Click here to complete your unsubmitted	

through the application.

before filling out online, download a paper copy, complete with Help Bubble information, here.

special instructions first.

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application, as well as request edits or upload documents.

Please note: If you are designated as Family 2 and your account is set up via the email invitation, click here to complete and submit your application, request edits, or upload documents.



Mobile Application

Navigation Bar

Use the truncated menu icon here to move back and forth through the application.

Log in / Log out
Instructions
Account Settings
Applicant Info
Household Info
Dependent Info
Real Estate / Vehicles
Assets / Liabilities
Income
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Quick Processing
Downloadable Worksheet
Downloadable User Guide
Help Center

Start Here

If you are divorced or separated, please read special instructions first.

Resume Application

Click here to complete your unsubmitted application, as well as request edits or upload documents.

Please note: If you are designated as **Family 2** <u>and</u> your account is set up via the email invitation, click here to complete and submit your application, request edits, or upload documents.

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Financial Aid Application FAST Demonstration School *

IMPORTANT! If this is not the school to which you are applying, go to your school's homepage and click on the FAST logo.

START APPLICATION

RESUME APPLICATION

English | Espanol | עברית | Français

All Applicants' Deadline - 8/2/2022

Returning Families' Deadline - 10/11/2022

New Families' Deadline - 3/1/2023



Welcome to FAST Aid

Your school has chosen FAST Aid—Financial Aid for School Tuition powered by ISM[®]—to process your financial aid application. FAST is an online program that works in your computer's Web browser. To use FAST, you will need Internet access. If you do not have a computer, public libraries usually have online computers available, or you may contact the school and request to use a computer there.

The Application

You reach the application by going to your school's website (typically on the Admission or Financial Aid page) and clicking on the FAST link. The link will look similar to these icons. Each question in the application has a **Help Bubble** to explain what is required for that answer. A paper worksheet for the application with a list of all the Help Bubbles is available by clicking **Downloadable Worksheet** located on the gray navigation bar on the opening page.





Time to Complete

When you sign on as a new user, you will be asked to create a **username** and **password** so you can log in and out as needed. You do not have to complete the application in one sitting. It should take you approximately 30–45 minutes to complete the application once you have gathered your information.

Preparing to fill out this document takes about as long as preparing to file your taxes. To complete this form, there are a number of financial records you will need.

The following list includes *typical* financial records that may be needed. Once your application is submitted, you will receive an email specifying what documents are needed. Note: You can apply for aid even if you have not completed your tax forms.

Tax forms typically required

- Most recent federal tax form (T1 Income Tax and Benefit Return)
- Copies of all supporting tax schedules
- Most recent T-slips (such as T4, T4A, T3, T5)
- Business T2125
- Fishing/Farming T2121, T2042
- Rental Property T776
- Corporation Latest Financial Statements prepared by auditors
- Partnership Schedule 4 (Part 7), T5013, or T5013A
- Trusts T1142 (if applicable)
- Provincial Forms

Household Information

- Year-end statement from your mortgage holder
- Bank statements
- Brokerage statements
- Insurance costs for home, life, auto, and health
- Utility information
- Medical records and expenses
- Retirement account information

Navigating This Program

A color-coded system of icons will help you move through the various sections. A green arrow ▶ means that the section is open and ready for you to input information. A blue check ✔ means that you have completed that section, but it is still available if you need to go back and change any information. A gray arrow ▶ means that the section is not available at this time.

You may enter information out of sequence. For example, you may enter information about your income before you enter information about real estate holdings, even though income comes after real estate on the Navigation bar.

Each field in the application contains **Help Bubbles** that clarify what information is being requested of you. You can also access the **Downloadable Worksheet** for your reference on the navigation bar.

Printing

Retain a copy of the completed application for your records. After you have finished the application, you will have an opportunity to open and download or print a PDF of the information you completed.

Payment

To complete your application, make a payment by Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or AMEX. Your school will tell you how much the filing fee is. If you do not have a credit card, you may pay the school directly and the school will issue a voucher* number to use in place of a credit card number.

*Not all schools participate in voucher programs

Deadlines

Deadlines are established by the school. Please pay attention to the deadline given, and remember: With financial aid, earlier is always better.

Documentation

When you submit your application, you will receive an email detailing what documentation is required and instructions on how to submit it. At a minimum, be prepared to submit complete copies of your Federal Income Tax and Benefit Return, all supporting T-slips and schedules, your CRA Notice of Assessment, and, in case of incorporation, your latest Financial Statement prepared by your auditors.

Cautions

- Do not use the "back" button on your browser. If you need to return to a previous section, use the gray Navigation bar on the left.
- If you forget your username or password, click the "forgot username or password" link on the opening page and follow the directions. An email will be sent to the email address associated with your account, which allows you to reset your login information.
- If your browser closes, you will have to log back into the system. Any work that you have submitted —i.e., any section that has a blue check by it—will be saved. If you were in the middle of a section, you may have to restart that section and re-enter some information.
- Answer all questions. Do not leave any numeric fields blank. If a particular question does not apply to you, enter a zero in that field. You may move from field to field using your mouse or the tab key.

School-Specific Questions

The school to which you are applying may have included some specific questions here. **Note:** If you have questions about these school-specific questions, you will need to contact your school. The FAST Call Center will not be able to clarify these questions for you.

Not all schools choose this option, so if school-specific questions do not appear here, your school simply hasn't asked any extra questions.

Letter/Agreement

In this section, you may write a letter if you feel there are special circumstances that should be considered. At the end of this section, you will also be asked how much you are able to pay toward your child's education, annually.

Your application is submitted for processing once all questions are completed and the filing fee has been paid.



Special Procedures for Divorced or Separated Parents

If you are divorced or separated, each parent needs to **file a separate but linked application**. To do this, we ask that one parent begin the process by clicking on the **Start Application** button on the opening page. From now on, you will be referred to as **Family 1**. This designation has no significance with respect to financial responsibility. It only indicates who initiated the application.

After answering a few questions about family structure and custody, you will be asked to provide an email address for the other parent, who then becomes known as **Family 2**. If there is no other parent living, or if there is a reason why the other parent can't be contacted, explain those circumstances in the box provided.

If you have been designated **Family 2**, you will receive an email that contains a link to create your own confidential username and password. **Family 1** *does not have access* to your username and password, or your information, and vice versa. There is only one fee for both applications. It is up to you to decide who will pay. The Application Status page displays which sections have been completed by each family. Payment will not be possible until both **Family 1** and **Family 2** have completed their applications.

If **Family 2** does not respond to the initial email, it is possible for **Family 1** to re-send the email by clicking on the **Account Settings** link on the gray Navigation bar and following the instructions.



Frequently Asked Questions

What happens after I have completed the application?

Your application is immediately available to the organization to which you are applying. Do not forget to *submit the required documentation to complete the application process*. Many organizations do not make final award decisions until all applications have been submitted and all required documentation has been received. Award decisions are often contingent on the funds available and the number of families requesting aid. Your organization will notify you directly about the financial aid decision.

What if I don't understand how I should answer a question?

When you click on a field, a Help Bubble will appear in red on the right to explain what information is needed for that field. A summary of that information is listed in the Downloadable Worksheet, available within the Navigation Bar on the left. If you still have questions, contact our Call Center at 1-877-326-FAST (3278). If you are still not sure if you are including the appropriate information, write a short note to the school in the spaces provided at the end of each section.

Who can see my information?

Authorized personnel at the organization to which you are applying and FAST employees who need to handle your application are the only ones with access to your records.

Why didn't I receive more financial aid?

Awards are based not only on need, but on the funds your organization has available. This means that even though you may qualify for more aid, an organization's budget may limit what it can offer.

What if I make a mistake?

If you make a mistake before you have checked the **Accept** box at the end and before you have paid the filing fee, just go back and make the changes. Nothing is final until you have paid. If you discover an error after you have paid, you can log in to your account, where you can request a change. This request will go directly to the organization to which you are applying, where Financial Aid personnel have the ability to go into the program and revise your entry. Our Call Center does not have access to your file and cannot make a change for you.

How long will this take to complete? Do I have to complete this application at one time?

Gathering the necessary information to complete this form is similar to gathering information to complete your taxes. Once you have collected all your financial information, it should take approximately 30–45 minutes to complete this application. You do not have to complete the application in one sitting. You may log out and come back later selecting "Resume Application" and entering your username and password.

I filled in most of the page before I quit, but when I went back into the program, the information was gone. What happened?

FAST only saves information from completed sections. If, for example, you are working on Income, you need to complete the entire section for that information to be saved. If you do not know an answer at the time, you may use a "?" as a placeholder in order to save that section.

What are the accepted payment methods?

We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and AMEX. If you do not have any of these cards, you may contact your school/organization to obtain a payment voucher* to use in place of a credit card.

*Not all schools/organizations participate in voucher programs.

My screen says "Cookies must be enabled." What does that mean?

This refers to information that is stored on your computer by sites on the World Wide Web. To operate, FAST requires that your computer be configured to accept cookies. In most instances, this will already be done. However, if you get an error message, click on your browser's Help menu and look for information about how to enable cookies.

Will I be spammed?

Absolutely not. Your email address will never be shared with anyone but the organization to which you are applying.

What documents will I need to submit?

You should be prepared to submit your Federal Income Tax and Benefit Return and all supporting T-slips and schedules. After you submit your payment, you will receive an email with a specific list of documents you will need to submit.



I don't have a computer or an email address. Now what?

Most libraries have computers with Internet access available for use. If this is not practical, ask your school if you may use a computer there to complete your application.

I forgot my password. What should I do?

On the login page, click on "Forgot username or password?" You will be asked to enter your email address. You will receive an email with your username and the ability to reset your password.

I need to explain something about our assets. How do I do that?

Line 512 gives you room to write about your assets. There are also spaces in Liabilities (Line 558), Income (line 610), and Expenses (line 722) for you to clarify any of your answers. Additionally, there is room in the Letter/ Agreement section to further explain your situation.

When is the application due?

The due date is up to the organization to which you are applying. If no deadline is specified on the opening page of your organization's FAST Application Link, please be sure to ask your organization directly about the due date. Earlier is always better.



FAST Aid Worksheet

For your convenience, we have included a worksheet for you to use when gathering the necessary information that will be asked on the FAST application. If you are unsure what is required for a particular field, there is a Glossary available at the end of this document.

Application Information – Student

(Fill out 101-107 for each student applying for aid)

101 Name
102 Birth Date
103 Gender
104 Grade Entering
105 Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)
106 CPP Children's Benefit
107 Child Trust

Parent/Adult Information

(Fill out 201-212 for each parent in the household)

201 Name
202 Gender
203 Birth Date
204 Address 1
205 Address 2
206 City
207 Province/Postal Code
208 Country
209 Home Phone
210 Occupation
211 Employer
212 Disabled?

Dependent Child Information

(Fill out 301-308 for each dependent child)

301 Name
302 Birth Date
303 Gender
304 Present Grade
305 Present School
306 Is there tuition? How much?
307 Do you receive aid or scholarship?
308 Does this dependent live at the same address as applicant(s)?

Dependent Adult Information

(Fill out 350-356 for each adult dependent)

350 Name
351 Relationship
352 Does this dependent live at the same address as the applicant(s)?
353 Contributions to household
354 Does the dependent attend school?
355 Is there tuition? How much?
356 Do you receive aid or scholarship?

Real Estate

(Fill out 401-411 for each property)

401 Mortgage Payment (monthly)
402 Mortgage Interest Paid (annual)
403 Is your homeowners insurance included in your mortgage payment?
404 Original Mortgage Value
406 Year Purchased
407 Purchase Price
408 Present Market Value
409 Have you refinanced? What year?
Refinance amount:
410 Principal Remaining
411 Property Tax Paid
412 Is your property tax included in your mortgage payment?

Vehicle

(Fill out 450-454 for each vehicle you own/lease)

450 Make/Model _____

451 Year _____

452 Estimated Value

453 Debt Outstanding ____

454 Payment (Monthly)_____



Assets

504 Savings	
505 Checking	
506 Guaranteed Investment Certificates	
507 Stocks, Bonds, Securities, etc	
508 Trusts & Inheritance	
509 Retirement Savings	
510 Business Assets	
511 Other Assets	
512 Further Asset Explanation (optional)	

Liabilities

553 Personal Loans	_
554 Credit Cards	
555 Equity Loans	
556 Equity Interest Paid	
557 Other Liabilities	
558 Further Liabilities Explanation (optional)	
	-

Expenses

704 Rent
705 Homeowners Insurance
706 Life Insurance
707 Auto Insurance
708 Health Insurance
709 Electricity
710 Heating
711 All Other Utilities/Phone
712 Child Support Paid
713 Alimony Paid
714 Charity/Tithing
715 Federal Taxes
716 Provincial Taxes
717 Medical Expenses
718 Other Loan Expenses
719 Support of Dependents
720 Childcare Expenses
721 Other Expenses
722 Further Expenses Explanation (optional)

Income

601 T4 Income	
601b T4 Income #2	
602 Business Income	
603 Dividend/Interest Income	
604 Capital Gains Income	
605 Real Estate Income	
606 Trust, Inheritance Income	
607 Alimony Income	
608 Child Support Received	
609 Gifts	
610 All Other Income	
611 Further Income Explanation (optional)	

Help Bubbles

Each numerical field has a help bubble associated with it to help you understand what you are being asked to enter. The following is a summary of the online Help Bubbles by line number. (Not all lines require a help bubble.)

105 Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)

Enter the total amount of all money in all Registered Education Savings Plans for the applicant.

106 CPP Children's Benefit

Enter the total amount this student receives annually in benefits from the CPP surviving child's benefit or CPP disabled contributor's child's benefit.

107 Child Trust

If a trust is held in this child's name, enter the amount here and explain in detail in the box provided below.

401 Mortgage Payment

Please enter the amount of your monthly mortgage payment here.

402 Mortgage Interest Paid

Please enter the amount of interest you paid on your mortgage in the last year. If this is not available on your mortgage statement, please call your mortgage holder to get this amount.

403 Is your homeowners insurance included in your mortgage?

Select Yes or No.

404 Original Mortgage Value

When you first bought this house, how much did you mortgage?

406 Year Purchased

Enter the year you originally purchased this house.

407 Purchase Price

How much did you originally pay for this house?

408 Present Market Value

What is the present market value of your house?

409 Have you refinanced? Select yes or no.

What year did you refinance your house? How much did you refinance?

410 Principal Remaining

What is the unpaid balance on your mortgage?

411 Property Tax Paid

What is your annual property tax bill due from city and/or province?

450 Make/Model

Please enter the brand and identifying name of your vehicle. Example: Ford Focus, Dodge Neon.

451 Year

Enter the year that the vehicle was manufactured for sale.

452 Estimated Value

Please enter the present market value of your vehicle if sold in current condition.

453 Debt Outstanding

Please enter the total amount remaining on original car loan. If you lease this car, enter a zero.

454 Payment

Please enter the amount you pay each month for a loan or a lease on this car.

501 Home Market Value

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered for your family home in the Real Estate section.

502 Other Real Estate Market Value

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered for other real estate properties in the Real Estate section.

503 Vehicle(s) Market Value

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered in the Vehicle Information Section.

504 Savings

Please enter the total amounts of all your savings accounts, money market accounts, and tax-free savings accounts (TFSAs). Use information from statements for the last full month.

505 Checking

Please enter the total amounts of all your checking accounts. Use information from statements for the last full month.

506 Guaranteed Investment Certificate

If you own Guaranteed Investment Certificates, please indicate the amounts here. To get current amounts, call your bank or the issuer of the GIC and request totals for the last full quarter or month.



507 Stocks, Bonds, Securities, etc.

Please enter the amounts as of your last quarterly, or monthly, statement of all stocks, bonds, or other securities. Do not include Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSP), Registered Educational Savings Plans (RESP), Retirement Income Funds (RIF), or Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA) you may hold. Please do your best to establish the value as of the last full quarter, or the last month.

508 Trust and Inheritance

Please enter the total amount of money held in trust for you and any dependent children who are not applying as students. Please also include any inheritance received within the last year.

509 Retirement Savings

Please enter the total amounts of all RRSP accounts as of the most recent statements.

510 Business Assets

If you own a business, please indicate your business assets (net of liabilities) as of your last monthly report. If you do not own a business, please fill in a zero.

511 Other Assets

Please enter the total valuation of your tangible assets. Do not include your house or automobiles. Items that might be included here are valuable pieces of jewelry, art work, antiques, coin collections, boats, airplanes, furs, and anything else for which you might reasonably expect to receive a return of \$1,000 or more if it was sold.

512 Further Asset Explanation

Use this space to clarify any of your answers in the Asset section.

550 Home Principal

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered for your family home in the Real Estate section.

551 Other Real Estate Principal

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered for other real estate properties in the Real Estate section.

552 Vehicle Debt Outstanding

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered in the Vehicle Information section.

553 Personal Loans

Please enter any secured or unsecured loans you may have received from financial institutions, businesses, or persons. The number should be the actual amount owed to date (not the amount borrowed). Do not include credit card balances or equity loans in this category.

554 Credit Cards

Enter the total amount of debt owed on all credit cards--both those issued by banks and those issued by businesses. Do not include monthly credit card balances that you pay off immediately. If not applicable, enter zero.

555 Equity Loans

Please enter the total of any money that you have borrowed above the mortgage with your house as security.

556 Equity Interest Paid

Please enter the total of all interest paid annually on the equity loans listed in 555 above.

557 Other Liabilities

Please enter the total amount you owe for items such as court judgments, delinquent taxes, or any other liability that you might have that was not covered in the previous questions.

558 Further Liability Explanation

Use this space to clarify any of your answers in the Liability section.

601 T4 Income

Please enter your gross wages, prior to any deductions, as reported on line 10100 of your T1 General Income Tax & Benefit Return, and supported by line 14 of your T4 slip(s).

602 Business Income

Please enter the total amount of income reported on lines 13500- 14300 of your T1 General, as a result of owning a business. If there was no income, enter a zero. You may not enter a negative number.

603 Dividend/Interest Income

Please enter the total amount of all income received from dividends and interest-bearing accounts, as reported on line 12000 and 12100 of the T1 General. This should include interest received from savings accounts, money market accounts, etc.

604 Capital Gains Income

Please enter the total amount of capital gains earned, as reported on line 12700 of the T1 General.

605 Real Estate Income

Please enter the total amount of all monies received from real estate currently owned. Examples include rental properties, vacation homes, and timeshares.



606 Trusts

Please enter the amount received annually from any trusts for which you or your child are beneficiaries. In the "Optional further income explanation" on line 611, please describe the trust and explain who created the trust, the intended purpose, as well as any restrictions/ requirements as to use.

607 Alimony Income

Please enter the total amount of alimony received during the last year.

608 Child Support Received

Please enter the total amount of Child Support received during the last year.

609 Gifts

Please enter the total of any cash gifts you have received, such as a gift from a grandparent or any other relative.

610 All Other Income

Please enter the total amount of any income not already listed, including money received for part-time jobs for which a T-Slip was not issued. Also include earnings received from hobbies, court awards, disability benefits, gambling, and all other income reported on the T1 General.

611 Further Income Explanation

Use this space to clarify any of your answers in the Income section.

701 Home Mortgage Payment

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered in the Family Home Information Section.

702 Other Mortgage Payments

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered in the Family Home Information Section.

703 Vehicle Payments

This section auto-fills depending on what you entered in the Vehicle Information Section.

704 Rent

Please enter the yearly amount of rent you pay for your home or apartment. If you do not pay rent, please place a zero in this space.

705 Home Owner Insurance

Enter the amount you pay annually for homeowner insurance (if you own your home) or renter insurance (if you rent your home). This number should only reflect data from your primary residence. If not applicable, enter zero.

706 Life Insurance

Please enter the total of the annual premiums you pay for life insurance. If you do not have any life insurance, please place a zero in this space.

707 Auto Insurance

Please enter the total of the annual premiums you pay for auto insurance. If you do not have auto insurance, please place a zero in this space.

708 Health Insurance

Please enter the amount you pay annually for health insurance. Please include any supplemental policies in addition to your primary policy. If you do not have health insurance, please place a zero in this space.

709 Electricity

Please enter the amount you pay annually for electricity. If you do not have this number, sometimes your electric company is able to give it to you. This number should only reflect data from your primary residence.

710 Heating

If your heating costs are not included in your electric payments, please enter the amount you pay annually to heat your house. If your heating costs are included in your electric bill, please place a zero in this space. This number should only reflect data from your primary residence.

711 All Other Utilities/Phone

Please enter the sum of everything you spend annually for land line or Internet phone service, Internet service, cell phones, water, and sewer. This number should only reflect data from your primary residence.

712 Child Support Paid

Please enter the total annual amount of child support payments you are required to make. If you are not required to pay any child support, please place a zero in this space.

713 Alimony Paid

Please enter the total amount of alimony you are required to pay annually. If you are not required to pay any alimony, please place a zero in this space.

714 Charity/Tithing

Please enter the total amount of all monetary charitable and/or tithing donations that you made for the prior calendar year to organizations recognized as charities by the Canada Review Agency (CRA). If you did not make any charitable contributions, please enter zero.



715 Federal Taxes

If you have already filed your federal income tax return, please enter your total tax as found on line 42000 of your T1 General Form. If you have not yet filed your taxes, please check the box, "I have not filed my taxes."

716 Provincial Taxes

If you have already filed your provincial tax return, please enter your total tax as found on line 42800 of your T1 General Form. For residents of Quebec, please enter your total tax as found on line 450 of your TP-1-V Form. If you have not yet filed your taxes, please check the box, "I have not filed my taxes."

717 Medical Expenses

Please enter the total amount of all medical expenses that you paid in the prior calendar year. This may include copays, prescriptions, physical exams, glasses, physical or psychological therapy, prosthetics, etc. Do not include any expenses which are covered by insurance. In the space provided, please explain what you have included in this number.

718 Other Loan Expenses

Please enter the annual amount of any other loan expenses you incur during the year. These may include credit card payments you pay annually towards credit card debt (do not include monthly expenses which you pay off immediately, or that are reported as expenses in other fields). These may also include personal loans and bank loans that do not use your home equity as collateral. Do not include car payments, your mortgage or any other loans against equity in this field. In the space provided below, please explain what you have included in this number.

719 Support of Dependents

Please enter the annual amount you pay to support any adult dependents in your home. In the space provided below, please explain what you have included in this number.

720 Child Care Expenses

Please enter the annual amount you pay for childcare expenses. This might include childcare, after school programs, camps, lessons, special needs, etc. In the space provided, please explain what you have included in this number. *Do not include tuition amounts in this field.*

721 Other Expenses

Please enter the annual amount of any other expenses you incur during the year. These might include condo expenses, neighborhood dues, club memberships, etc. In the space provided below, please explain what you have included in this number. Do not include car payments, house payments, or credit card payments. Do not include expenses for food, clothes, or transportation.

722 Optional Further Expense Explanation:

Use this space to clarify any of your answers in the Expense section.

