

FAFSA vs BOGW

	FAFSA <i>(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)</i>	BOGW <i>(Board of Governor's Fee Waiver)</i>
Funding	U.S. federally funded program.	Funded by the state of California.
Where available	Can apply for FAFSA whether at a CC, CSU, UC, or Private University	Only at California Community Colleges.
Aid available	Student eligibility for grants, loans and work-study will be determined.	Student will have their community college tuition waived.
Verification	Yes. Students must provide tax information in order to complete the form. Some FAFSA's are selected for verification.	At College of San Mateo, the BOGW is self-verified. Student does not have to provide income verification. However, if student also completes FAFSA, information provided on FAFSA will override information provided on BOGW.
Processing Time	4-6 weeks.	Immediate.
Dependency status	<p>Only way to be considered independent is if you meet one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Over 24 yrs. 2. Married 3. Have a child 4. Are/were a ward of the court until the age of 18 5. Are a veteran <p>Students can request to the Financial Aid Director a dependency override for extreme circumstances.</p>	Can be considered independent if you do not live with your parents and they do not claim you on their taxes.
Deadline	Priority Application Deadline is March 2. However, students can apply year-round.	There is no deadline.
How often do I apply?	Once a year	Once a year