

FAFSA & Financial Aid

What you need to know about the 2025-26 FAFSA

**Kim Nauer | UnderstandingFAFSA.org
Partnership for After School Education (PASE)
December 18, 2024**



**Have questions?
Post them in the chat now – or anytime during the event!**



FILLING OUT
THE FAFSA

COMPARING
COLLEGE OFFERS

FREQUENT
QUESTIONS

SPECIAL
CIRCUMSTANCES

FOR COLLEGE
PROFESSIONALS

HELP
& STRATEGY

SELECT LANGUAGE

SEARCH

UNDERSTANDING FAFSA & FINANCIAL AID

YOUR GUIDE TO PAYING FOR COLLEGE

 GET THE GUIDE



 STAY INFORMED ON THE LATEST



The 2025-26 FAFSA is Open for Students and Families

The 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, is officially open for students and family members to complete. The...



Your Scholarship Hunt: Start on the Big Websites

Scholarships can help you pay for your college education. But how do you find scholarships that you have a real chance of getting?...

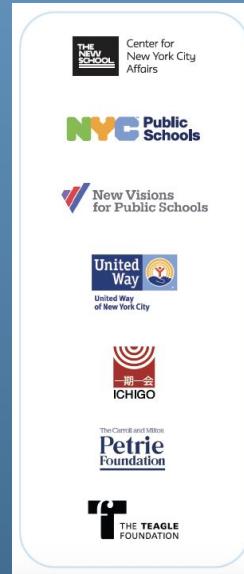
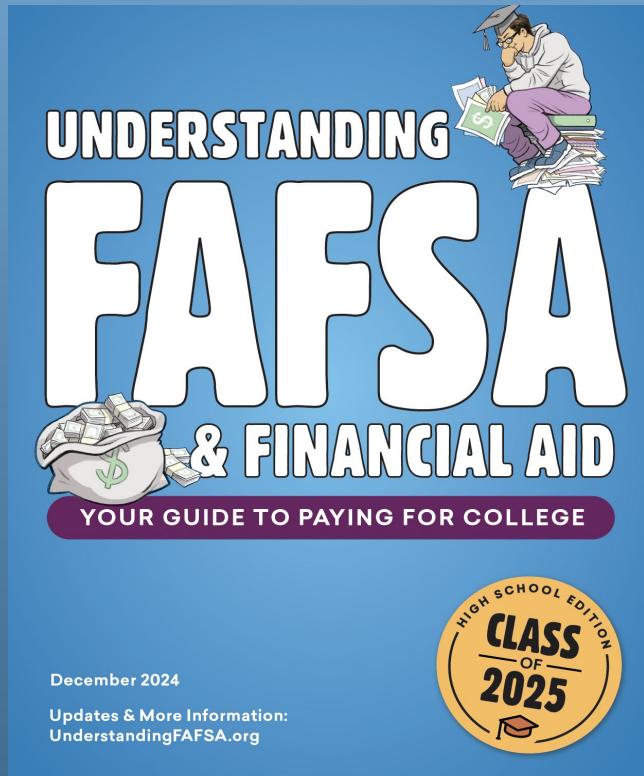


Get Help With Your 2025-26 FAFSA Today

Need help completing your FAFSA? Not sure where to start? There are lots of people and websites available to help, including some...

<https://understandingFAFSA.org>

Kim Nauer
Center for New York City Affairs
The New School



<https://understandingfafsa.org/guides/>

FAFSA & Financial Aid: What You Need to Know This Year

Get Your Coffee. We've Got Lots of Stuff.

- Why are we doing this? College money!
- FAFSA 2025-26: What to expect
- First Step: Get a StudentAid.gov login (aka an FSA ID)
- Your FAFSA in 5 minutes: Common questions & pain points
- CSS profile, TAP & NYS Dream Act
- Help for counselors and educators
- Working with undocumented students and mixed-status families
- Help for students with special circumstances

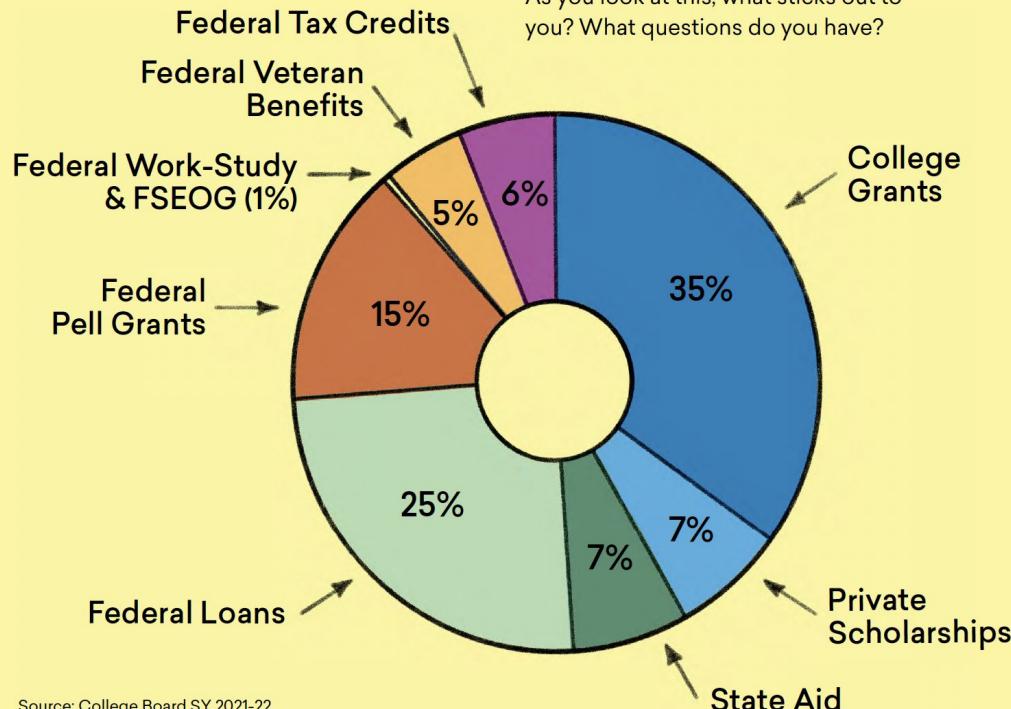
Why are we doing this?

Types of College Financial Aid

- Federal Government Pell & SEOG Grants (free money)**
- NYS TAP, Dream Act & Excelsior Scholarships (free money)**
- College Grants and Merit Scholarships (free money)**
- Private Scholarships (free money)**
- Federal Work-Study (campus employment)**
- Federal Direct Student Loans (must be paid back >> lower cost)**
- Federal Parent PLUS Loans (must be paid back >> high cost)**
- Private Loans (must be paid back >> very high cost)**

Financial Help To Pay for College

There is a lot of money available to pay for college from many different sources. As you look at this, what sticks out to you? What questions do you have?

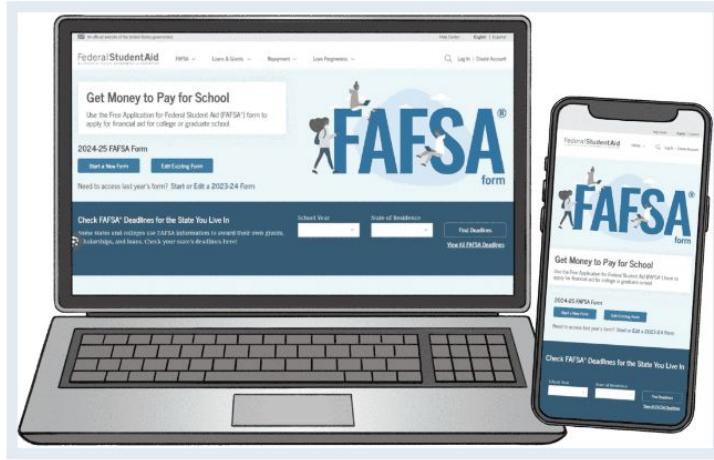


Source: College Board SY 2021-22

Total Undergraduate Student Aid by Type, 2022-23

Your 2025-26 FAFSA

What to Expect



**We fixed the FAFSA this year.
Really. Truly. We mean it.**

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Search engine type in “FAFSA.gov”
<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>**

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Student Raya Tran

Save | FAFSA Menu

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

1 Personal Circumstances

Most of these questions determine if you are dependent on your parents or independent from them. Other questions may give access to more financial aid.

2 Demographics

These are government research questions. You may answer them if you like, or decline to answer. These questions will not affect your eligibility for aid. All information is kept confidential and is not shared with your family or colleges.

3 Financials

To determine your eligibility for financial aid, the FAFSA needs to know your family's income and savings. If you agree to share your tax data (and you should!), this section will be short. If your parents are helping you with the FAFSA, they will provide most of the family's financial information. Ask for help if needed.

4 Colleges

The FAFSA will ask you which colleges you are applying to. You can list up to 20 schools. Still getting your applications together? You can add schools at any time. These schools will get your FAFSA information once your application is complete.

5 Signature

Agree that the information is correct and sign electronically. Sign and submit. Then watch your email for your FAFSA Submission Summary.

GOOD NEWS

The form is living up to its promise this year. Most financial information is automatically uploaded by the IRS. The FAFSA is super fast when it works!

More students will get Pell grants & grants may be larger than in the past.

Students can include up to 20 colleges. (Weirdly, many do.)

Eventually available in 11 most common languages.



BAD NEWS

The FAFSA was delayed again. It is open and working now.

Parents and students fill out the student's form separately, potentially a huge headache for counselors.

Families making \$60,000+ will have to report the value any businesses, side businesses, farms. Confusing!

The required IRS data upload and government identity verification may feel scary, especially for parents



First Step: Get a StudentAid.gov Login (aka an FSA ID)

Ask: Who Fills Out the FAFSA?

The student

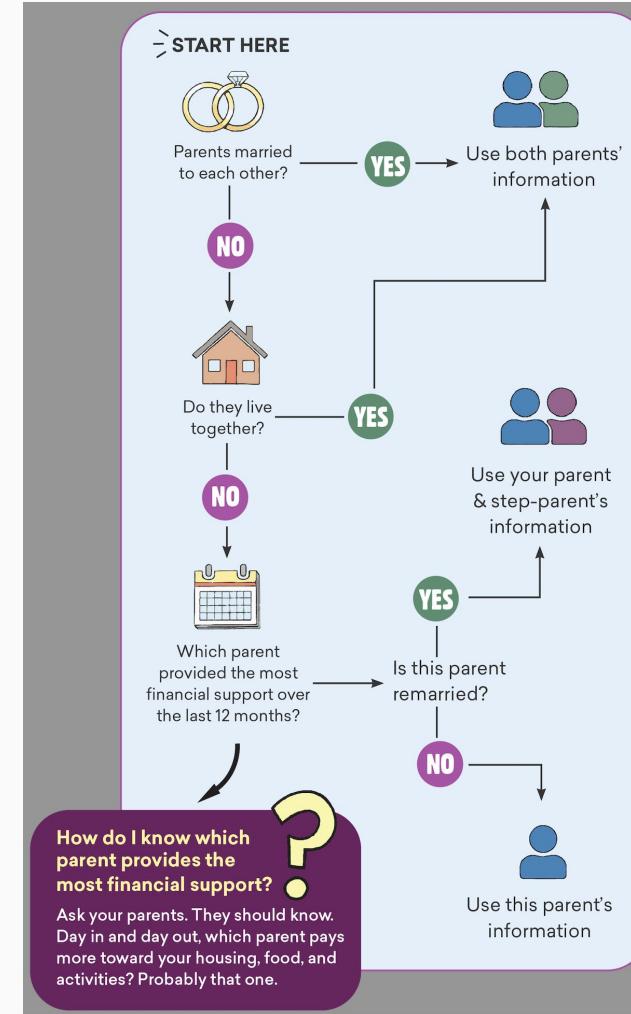
Ideally the student starts the FAFSA & invites the parents to "contribute" to their form.

One or two parents

This will depend on the family situation. See chart →

Use FSA's [new Parent Wizard](#) to figure out which parent(s) help out:

NOTE: Some students may be considered "independent" on the FAFSA and will not need the help of parents. The FAFSA will ask questions to determine this.



Who Contributes to the FAFSA and Needs to Get an FSA ID?

Number of Parents in Household	Tax filing status	Who needs an FSA ID?
1	Single, Filed Head of Household (or Didn't File)	Student, 1 parent
2	Single, Head of Household, Married Filing Separately (or Didn't File)	Student, 2 parents
2	Married Filing Jointly	Student, 1 parent

First Step! Get Your FSA ID

Now it's time to take your first important step: **creating an account on StudentAid.gov**. This is commonly known as an FSA ID. One or both of your parents will need to get an FSA ID as well. This account will get a lot of use in the years to come. Find an easy way to remember your login.

What You Need

- ✓ A safe place to store login information, password, security question information, and backup code.
- ✓ Your family's tax forms or Social Security cards.
- ✓ Your Social Security number and birthdate.
- ✓ A permanent email address (not your school email address) and cell phone number.



How To Create an FSA ID

1. Search [StudentAid.gov Create Account](#) and click the **Get Started** button. Create a unique username and password that you will remember and record it somewhere safe.
2. Enter your full legal name, date of birth, mailing address, language preference, and Social Security number. Make sure your name and Social Security number match the information on your Social Security card or parents' taxes exactly.
3. Provide your email and cell phone information. Choose a permanent email address that you check frequently. Also, an email address and cell phone number can only be associated with one FSA ID. Make sure yours is different from your parents'.
4. Answer the security questions. Choose questions that are facts, not opinions. Opinions can change over time.
5. Follow the prompts to enable two-step verification, linking your email address to your new FSA ID. You can also link your cell phone. It's best to set up both.
6. Record your one-time backup security code. This can be used to access your account if all else fails.
7. Verify that everything you've entered is correct. Double-check. When you're ready, submit!
8. Congratulations! Watch your email. It may take a day or two to get your FSA ID fully set up. You'll want to make sure everything is working before you start filling out your FAFSA.

Do Now!
Get your FSA ID done early!

Learn more at [UnderstandingFAFSA.org](#)

[Get Your FSA ID Handout](#)

FSA ID Tips & Troubleshooting

What is an FSA ID? It's a website login, like the ones you have for your favorite music sites or online stores. But this login connects you to important government websites. It needs to be extra secure. Take your time to set it up right.

Use Official Documents

The FAFSA needs your full legal name, birthdate, and Social Security number to be sure you are really you. Use your Social Security card or family taxes. Copy this information exactly. Type slowly and carefully.



Parents Need FSA IDs

Your parents may already have FSA IDs if they filled out the FAFSA for your older siblings. But if you're the first, one or both of your parents will need to get an FSA ID.

Matching Matters

You and your parents will need each other's FSA ID information to link up your information on the FAFSA. All information must match exactly. You and your parents should take screenshots so you can make a perfect match.

Forgotten FSA ID?

If your parents got an FSA ID in the past, they'll need to use that FSA ID for your FAFSA. Forgot the login? They can go online to get it reset or your siblings in college may know what it is. Call the FAFSA help desk at 800-433-3243 if you need help.

Help for Parents Without Social Security Numbers

Most students need a Social Security number to get an FSA ID and fill out the FAFSA. But parents do not need Social Security numbers to get an FSA ID. The FAFSA is providing a way for all parents to get their FSA IDs so they can help complete the FAFSA. It's important to stay informed. Get the latest information at [UnderstandingFAFSA.org](#).



Learn more at [UnderstandingFAFSA.org](#)

[Tips and Troubleshooting Handout](#)

Beat the Holiday Rush! Get Your FSA IDs Now!

 An official website of the United States government.

FederalStudentAid
An office of the U.S. Department of Education

Help Center | Submit a Complaint | English | Español

FAFSA® Form | Loans and Grants | Loan Repayment | Loan Forgiveness | Log In | Create Account | 

Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to apply for, receive, and manage your federal student aid.

[Get Started](#)

Already have an account? [Log In](#)

What You Can Do With Your Account

You must have an account to do the following:

- Fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form online
- Complete other online forms (such as the *Master Promissory Note* required to receive aid)
- Review the federal student aid you've received

What You'll Need

- Your Social Security number (if applicable)
- Your own email address



<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

FAFSA in 5 Minutes: Common Questions & Pain Points

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Student Raya Tran

Save | FAFSA Menu

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1 Personal Circumstances

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4 Colleges

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5 Signature

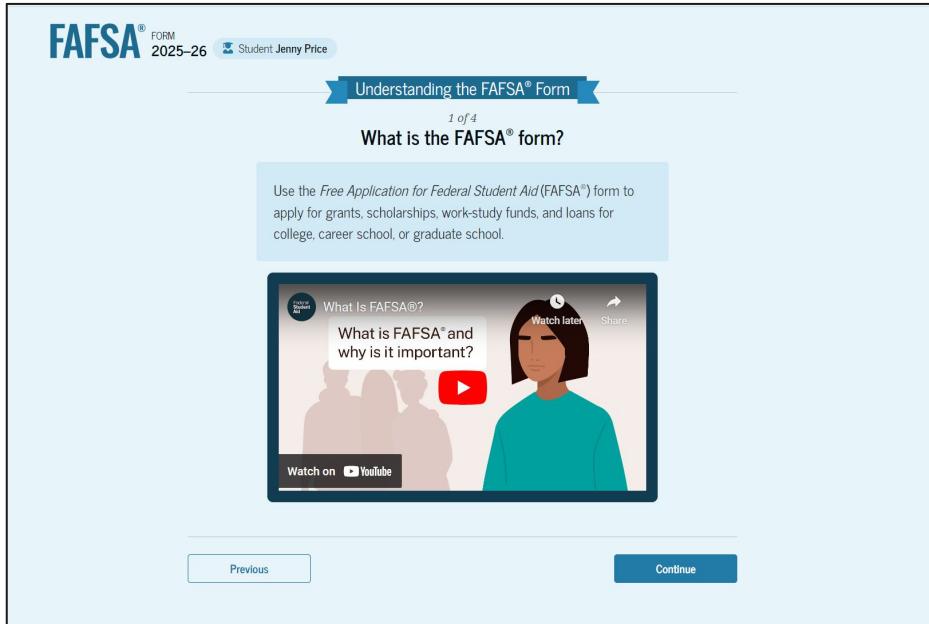
Agree that the information is correct and sign electronically. Sign and submit. Then watch your email for your FAFSA Submission Summary.

Download your very own
FAFSA slide-deck
(333 pages of fun!)

[Federal Student Aid 2025-26 FAFSA Preview Presentation](#)

Student Onboarding (1 of 4)

When the student starts the 2025–26 FAFSA® form for the first time, they are taken through the FAFSA onboarding process. The first onboarding page provides an introduction of the FAFSA form and an accompanying video.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA onboarding interface. At the top, it displays 'FAFSA® FORM 2025-26' and 'Student Jenny Price'. Below this, a blue banner reads 'Understanding the FAFSA® Form' with '1 of 4' and the question 'What is the FAFSA® form?'. A light blue box contains text explaining the purpose of the FAFSA form. Below this is a video player for a YouTube video titled 'What Is FAFSA®? What is FAFSA® and why is it important?'. The video features a woman in a teal shirt. At the bottom of the screen are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Dependent Student Onboarding (2 of 4)

The second FAFSA® onboarding page provides information about contributors that may be required to participate in the student's FAFSA form, including an accompanying video that explains contributors, and information on how the student will invite them. Documents that may be needed to fill out the form are also included on this page.

FAFSA® FORM 2025–26 Student Jenny Price

2 of 4
Contributors to the FAFSA® Form

Who Is a Contributor on the 2024–25 FAFSA® Form?



Watch on YouTube

Parents or Spouses
Your answers on the FAFSA® form will determine if any contributors need to be identified. These contributors will complete their own sections of the form and are asked to provide personal and financial information, but they will not be financially responsible for the student's education.

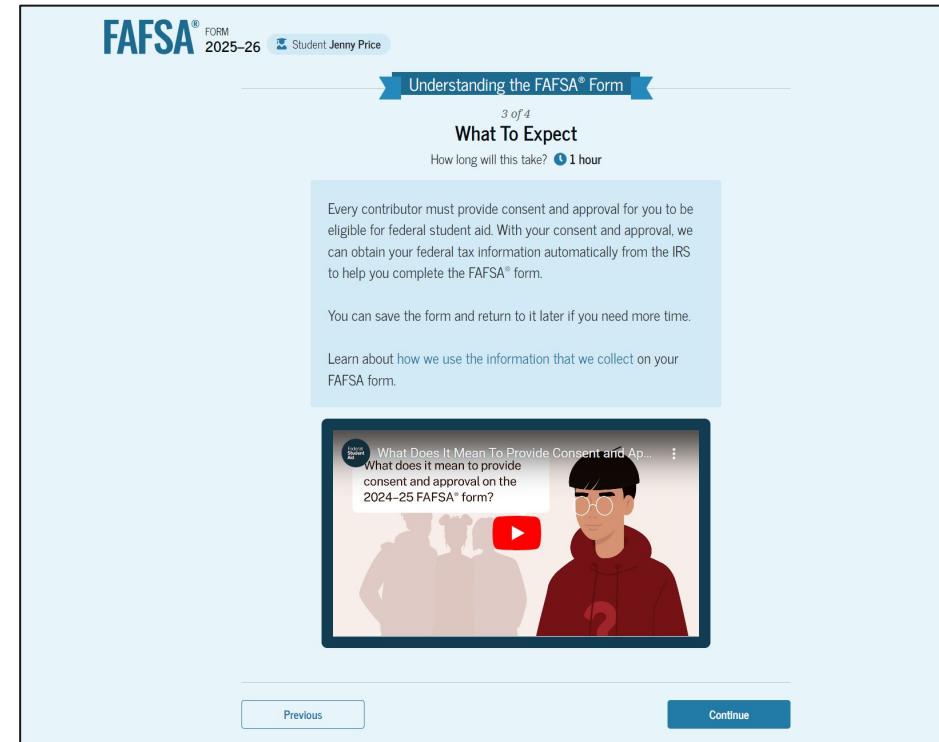
How To Invite
Contributors will need to log in with their own FSA ID to provide their information. To invite a contributor to a FAFSA form, you'll need to provide their name, date of birth, Social Security number (if they have one), and email address.

Information or Documents You May Need

Previous **Continue**

Dependent Student Onboarding (3 of 4)

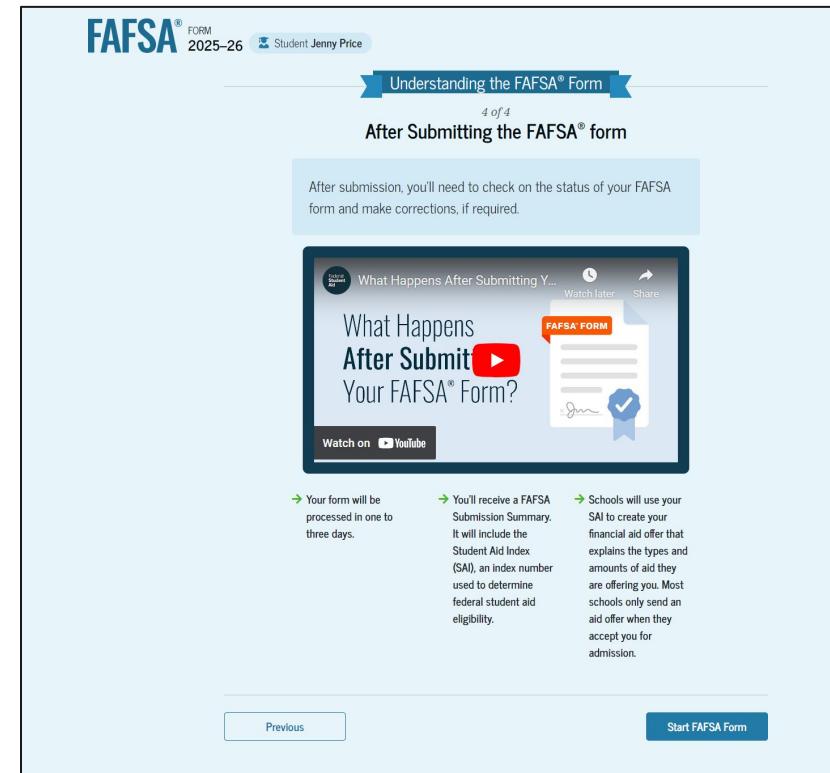
The third FAFSA® onboarding page provides information about what the student can expect when completing their FAFSA form. This includes information about consent and approval, a time estimate for completing the form, and that they can save the form and return later if needed, along with an accompanying video.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA onboarding process for a dependent student named Jenny Price. The page is titled "Understanding the FAFSA® Form" and is labeled as "3 of 4". It includes a "What To Expect" section with a 1-hour time estimate. The content explains that consent and approval from all contributors are required for federal student aid, and that tax information will be automatically obtained from the IRS. It also states that the form can be saved and returned later. A video player is embedded on the page, showing a video titled "What Does It Mean To Provide Consent and Approval on the 2024-25 FAFSA® Form?". Navigation buttons for "Previous" and "Continue" are at the bottom.

Dependent Student Onboarding (4 of 4)

The last FAFSA® onboarding page provides information about what to expect once the FAFSA form is completed, submitted, and processed. On this page, the student can select "Start FAFSA Form" to begin.



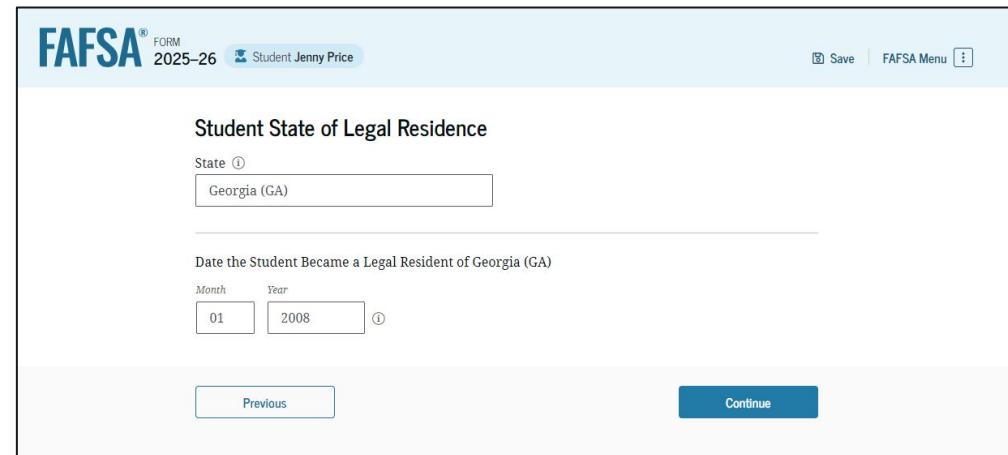
The screenshot shows the FAFSA onboarding page for a dependent student named Jenny Price. The page is titled "Understanding the FAFSA® Form" and is labeled "4 of 4". It features a video thumbnail titled "What Happens After Submitting Your FAFSA® Form?" with a "Watch on YouTube" button. Below the video, there are three bullet points explaining what happens after submission:

- Your form will be processed in one to three days.
- You'll receive a FAFSA Submission Summary. It will include the Student Aid Index (SAI), an index number used to determine federal student aid eligibility.
- Schools will use your SAI to create your financial aid offer that explains the types and amounts of aid they are offering you. Most schools only send an aid offer when they accept you for admission.

At the bottom of the page are "Previous" and "Start FAFSA Form" buttons.

Dependent Student State of Legal Residence

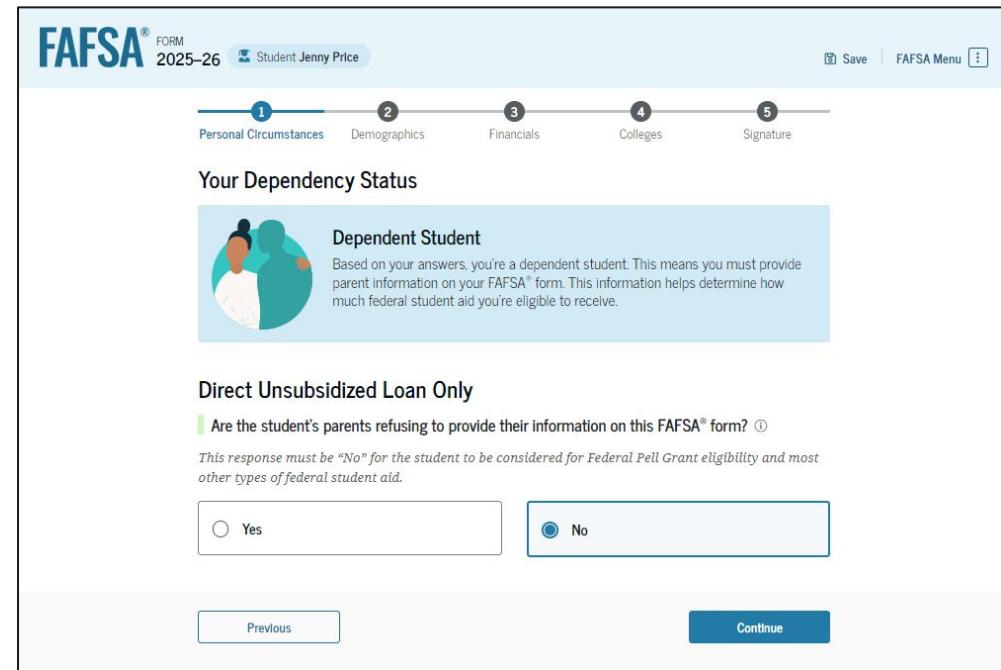
The student is asked about their state of legal residence. The student selects the state from a drop-down box and provides the month and year when they became a legal resident.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface. At the top, it displays "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26" and "Student Jenny Price". On the right, there are "Save" and "FAFSA Menu" buttons. The main section is titled "Student State of Legal Residence". It asks for the "State" and shows "Georgia (GA)" selected in a dropdown. Below this, it asks for the "Date the Student Became a Legal Resident of Georgia (GA)". It provides "Month" and "Year" fields, with "01" in the Month field and "2008" in the Year field. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Student Dependency Status: Dependent Student

Based on the answers provided by the student, they are considered a dependent student. The student is asked if they want a financial aid administrator to determine their eligibility for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan only. This is an option if the student's parents are unwilling to provide information. The student selects "No," and if the student had selected "Yes," a modal would appear to warn them about missing out on other potential federal student aid.



FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Student Jenny Price

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

Your Dependency Status

Dependent Student

Based on your answers, you're a dependent student. This means you must provide parent information on your FAFSA® form. This information helps determine how much federal student aid you're eligible to receive.

Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only

Are the student's parents refusing to provide their information on this FAFSA® form? No

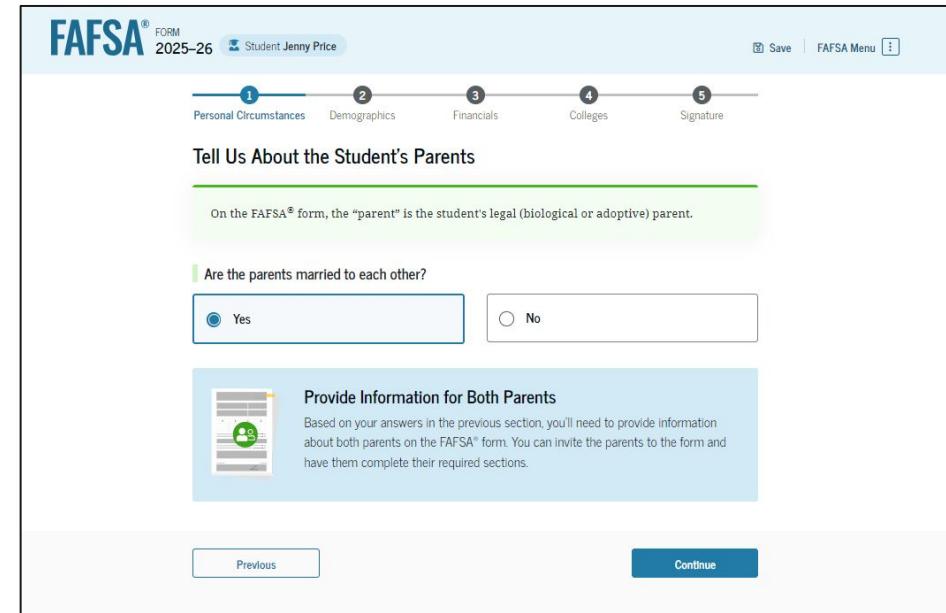
This response must be "No" for the student to be considered for Federal Pell Grant eligibility and most other types of federal student aid.

Yes No

Previous Continue

Dependent Student: Tell Us About Your Parents

As the student is considered dependent, they are asked to provide information about their parents. The FAFSA® form considers their "parent" to be their legal (biological or adoptive) parent. The student is asked if their parents are married. The student selects "Yes" and is instructed to provide information about both their parents on the FAFSA form.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Student Jenny Price', 'Save', 'FAFSA Menu', and a three-dot menu. A progress bar at the top indicates steps 1 through 5: Personal Circumstances (selected), Demographics, Financials, Colleges, and Signature. The main section is titled 'Tell Us About the Student's Parents'. A note states: 'On the FAFSA® form, the "parent" is the student's legal (biological or adoptive) parent.' Below this, a question asks, 'Are the parents married to each other?' with 'Yes' selected. A 'Provide Information for Both Parents' section follows, with a note: 'Based on your answers in the previous section, you'll need to provide information about both parents on the FAFSA® form. You can invite the parents to the form and have them complete their required sections.' Navigation buttons at the bottom are 'Previous' and 'Continue'.

Dependent Student Invites Parents to FAFSA® Form

The student is asked to enter personal information about their parents in order to send them an invite to their FAFSA® form. In this scenario, the student invites one parent.

FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Student Jenny Price

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

Invite Parent(s) to This FAFSA® Form

We Need Information for Your Parent(s) Now

Based on your answers in the previous section, you'll need to provide information about both of your parents on your FAFSA® form. This doesn't make them financially responsible for your education. You can invite one or both of your parents to your form now and have them complete their required sections.

Enter information about your parent(s) identified on the prior page, and we'll send an email on your behalf.

If they already have a StudentAid.gov account username and password (FSA ID), the information entered here must exactly match that account.

IMPORTANT: If your contributor doesn't have a Social Security number, you may encounter an issue that impacts your ability to add them to your form. If you receive this error, review the [guidance and recommended workaround](#) and try again.

Use the email address that is most likely to reach your contributor. Unlike the other information provided, the email address doesn't need to match the email associated with their StudentAid.gov account.

Parent

First Name (1)
Mark

Last Name (1)
Price

Parent Spouse or Partner (Optional)

First Name (1)

Last Name (1)

Date of Birth (1)

Month Day Year

01 01 1980

Social Security Number (SSN) (1)

****-8744 SHOW SSN

My parent doesn't have an SSN. Checking this box when your parent does have an SSN may delay processing of your FAFSA form.

My parent doesn't have an SSN. Checking this box when your parent does have an SSN may delay processing of your FAFSA form.

Email Address (1)

brianprice@gmail.com

Confirm Email Address (1)

brianprice@gmail.com

Send Invite

Previous

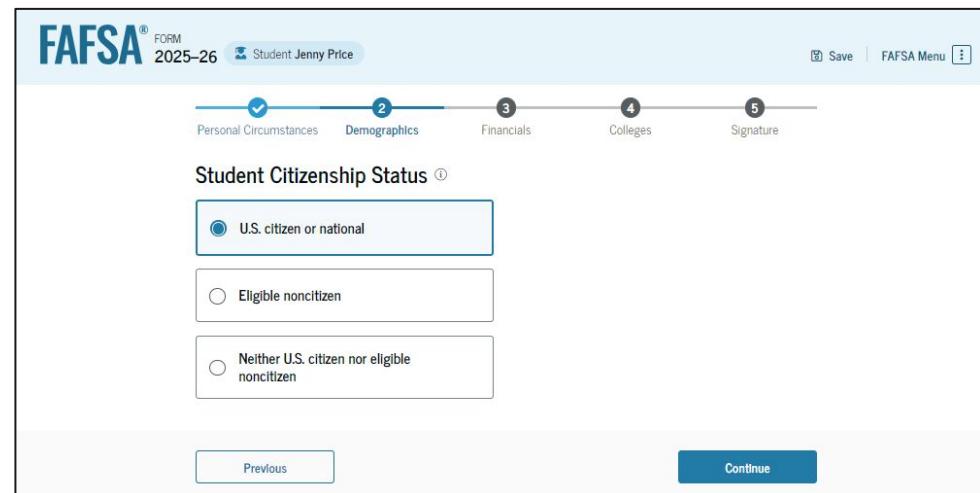
Email Address (1)

Confirm Email Address (1)

Send Invite

Dependent Student Citizenship Status

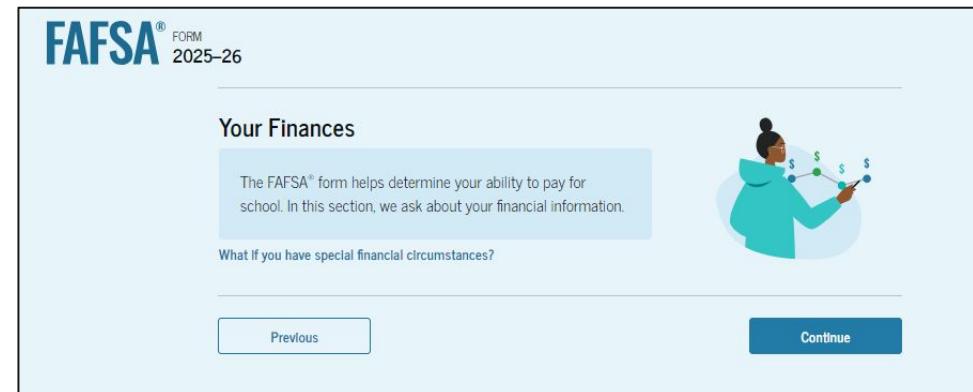
The student is asked about their citizenship status. The student selects the "U.S. citizen or national" option.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface for the 2025-26 academic year. The student is identified as Jenny Price. The application is divided into five main sections: Personal Circumstances (step 1, completed with a checkmark), Demographics (step 2, currently selected), Financials (step 3), Colleges (step 4), and Signature (step 5). The 'Demographics' section is titled 'Student Citizenship Status'. It contains three options: 'U.S. citizen or national' (selected, indicated by a blue border), 'Eligible noncitizen' (not selected, indicated by a grey border), and 'Neither U.S. citizen nor eligible noncitizen' (not selected, indicated by a grey border). At the bottom of the screen are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Introduction: Dependent Student Financials

This is the first page within the "Student Financials" section. It provides an overview of the section. The student can select the hyperlink if they want to learn about special financial circumstances.



The screenshot shows the 'Your Finances' section of the FAFSA 2025-26 application. At the top, the FAFSA logo and 'FORM 2025-26' are displayed. Below this, a heading 'Your Finances' is followed by a text box containing the following text: 'The FAFSA® form helps determine your ability to pay for school. In this section, we ask about your financial information.' To the right of the text box is an illustration of a person holding a smartphone, with dollar signs and a green circle floating around them. At the bottom of the section are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Dependent Student Tax Return Information (Continued)

The student is asked about their taxes, income, and other financial information. The student enters dollar amounts in the responses.

The form consists of several input fields for tax-related information:

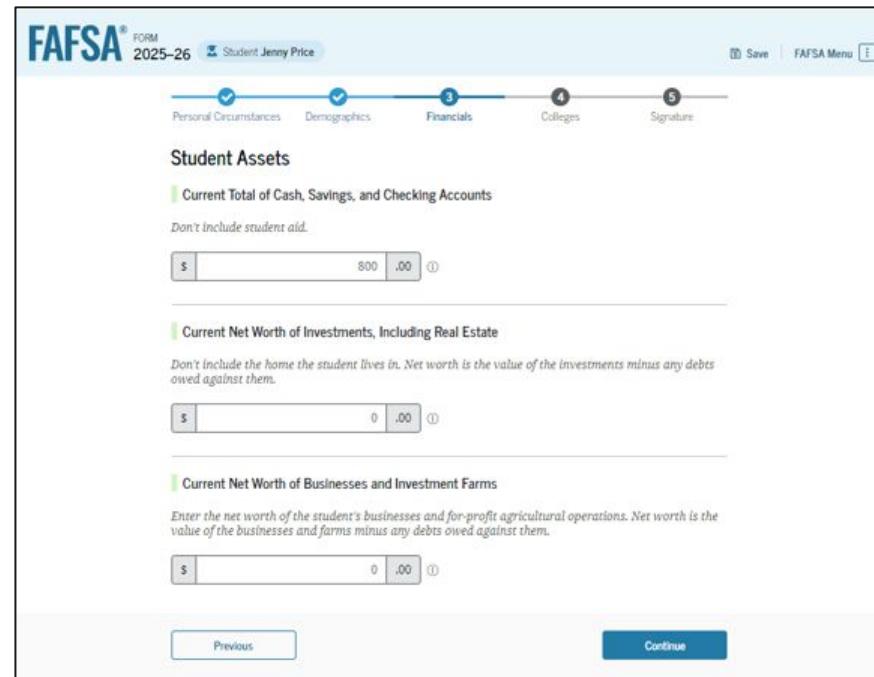
- Untaxed Portions of Pensions:** An input field showing \$0.00.
- Adjusted Gross Income:** An input field showing \$500.00.
- Income Tax Paid:** An input field showing \$50.00.
- IRA Deductions and Payments to Self-Employed SEP, SIMPLE, and Qualified Plans:** An input field showing \$0.00.
- Education Credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit):** An input field showing \$0.00.
- Amount of College Grants, Scholarships, or AmeriCorps Benefits Reported as Income to the IRS:** A note states: "The student paid taxes on these grants, scholarships, or benefits. These usually apply to those completing their FAFSA® form again, not to first-time applicants. If married, include the amount the student's spouse received." An input field shows \$0.00.
- Foreign Earned Income Exclusion:** An input field showing \$0.00.

At the bottom are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student Assets

The student is asked about their assets.

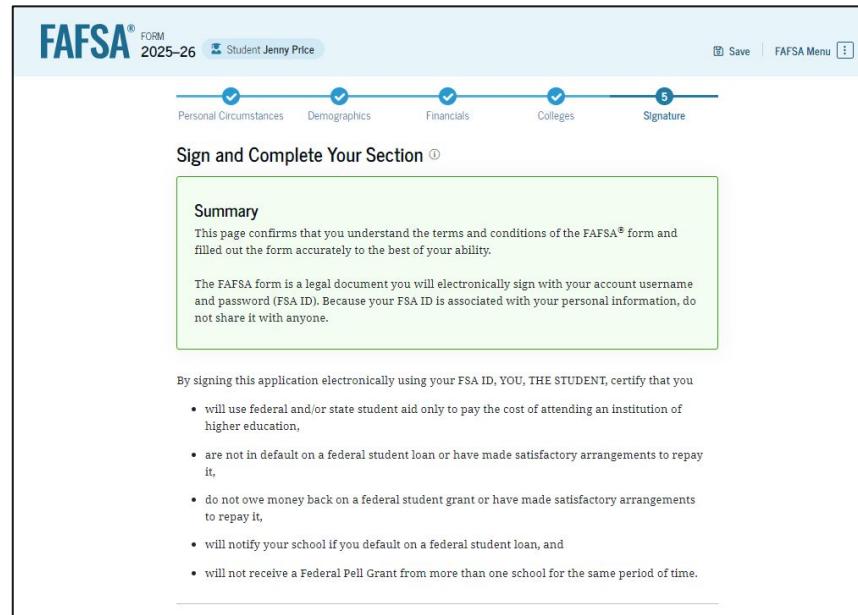
The student enters a response in each entry field.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2025-26 application interface. At the top, it displays "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26" and "Student Jenny Price". Below the title, a progress bar shows steps 1 through 5: Personal Circumstances (checked), Demographics (checked), Financials (step 3), Colleges (step 4), and Signature (step 5). The "Financials" section is currently active, titled "Student Assets". It contains three fields for entering asset values: "Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts" (value: \$ 800.00), "Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate" (value: \$ 0.00), and "Current Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms" (value: \$ 0.00). Each field includes a help icon (a question mark inside a circle). At the bottom of the screen are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student Signature

On this page, the student reviews the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and what they'll agree to if they sign the form.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2025-26 application interface. At the top, it displays "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26" and "Student Jenny Price". On the right, there are "Save" and "FAFSA Menu" buttons. Below the header, a progress bar shows five steps: "Personal Circumstances", "Demographics", "Financials", "Colleges", and "Signature", with the "Signature" step highlighted. The main content area is titled "Sign and Complete Your Section". A green box contains the "Summary" section, which states: "This page confirms that you understand the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and filled out the form accurately to the best of your ability." It also explains that the FAFSA form is a legal document to be signed with an FSA ID. Below the summary, a statement reads: "By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you". A bulleted list follows, detailing the student's responsibilities regarding student aid, loan repayment, and grant repayment.

FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Student Jenny Price

Save | FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics Financials Colleges Signature 5

Sign and Complete Your Section

Summary

This page confirms that you understand the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and filled out the form accurately to the best of your ability.

The FAFSA form is a legal document you will electronically sign with your account username and password (FSA ID). Because your FSA ID is associated with your personal information, do not share it with anyone.

By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you

- will use federal and/or state student aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education,
- are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- will notify your school if you default on a federal student loan, and
- will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one school for the same period of time.

Dependent Student Signature (Continued)

This is a continuation of the student signature page. After agreeing to the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and signing, the student is able to submit their section of the FAFSA form. Since parent information has not been provided, the FAFSA form is not considered complete and can't be processed yet.

By signing this application electronically using your account username and password, you certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked, to provide

- information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form, and
- U.S. or foreign income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application.

If you sign this application or any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposefully give false or misleading information, including applying as an independent student without meeting the unusual circumstances required to qualify for such a status, you may be subject to criminal penalties under 20 U.S.C. 1097, which may include a fine up to \$20,000, imprisonment, or both.

Additionally, by signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to disclose all information provided on this application, as required under Section 483(a)(2)(D)(i) of the *Higher Education Act of 1965*, as amended, to the institutions you have identified herein, state higher education agencies (in your state of residence and the states in which the institutions identified herein are located), and designated scholarship organizations to assist with the application, award, and administration of federal, state, or institutional financial aid programs and designated scholarship programs. Notwithstanding this authorization, the name of an institution that you select to authorize such disclosure shall not be shared with any other institution.

Sign Your FAFSA® Form

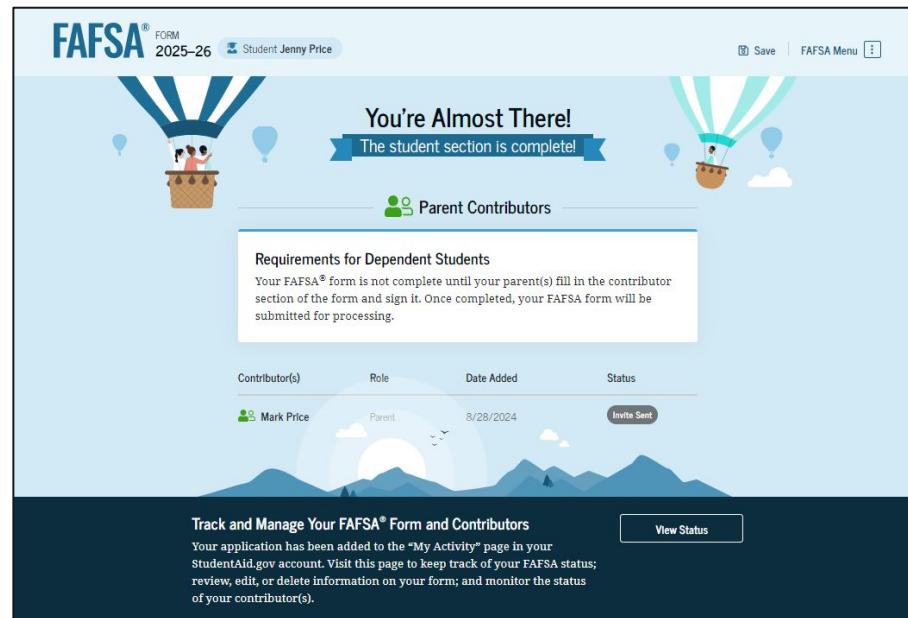
I, Jenny Price, agree to the terms outlined above.

Previous

Sign

Dependent Student Section Complete

Upon signing the student section, the student is presented “The student section is complete!” page. The student is reminded that their FAFSA® form is not completed and can’t be submitted until the parent completes the contributor section of the form and signs it. This page also displays next steps the student can take, including tracking and managing their form.



Dependent Student's Parent Email

This is NOT a view within
StudentAid.gov or the FAFSA® form.
This view demonstrates a parent
opening the FAFSA invitation from their
email. The parent selects "Get Started"
and is taken to StudentAid.gov.

Federal Student Aid

Help Complete Jenny's Form

Mark,

Jenny P won't be eligible for federal student aid without your input. Help them complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form.

Providing information as a contributor does not make you financially responsible for Jenny's education costs. Completing the FAFSA form is how they qualify for the following student aid:

- Federal Pell Grants
- federal student loans
- state financial aid
- school financial aid

Create a StudentAid.gov account or log in with your existing FSA ID (account username and password) to access and complete your section of the form. Creating a new StudentAid.gov account takes 10–15 minutes, but it can take up to three days for approval.

We recommend that you wait to log in and complete your section of the form until the person who invited you to participate has completed, signed, and submitted their section.

If you log in and can't enter the form because it's already been submitted, you may not be needed as a contributor.

Don't recognize Jenny? Read about what to do if you got an invite and don't recognize the sender.

[Get Started](#)

1 Why You Were Invited
Without your input, Jenny won't be eligible for federal student aid.

Reasons To Finish Early
Here's why it's a good idea to finish as soon as possible:

- States and schools have different deadlines for student aid.** Check the "FAFSA® Application Deadlines" page for more information.
- You may need extra time to make corrections after you submit.**

1 Can't Find Jenny's Form?
Read about what to do if you [can't find your FAFSA® form](#).

Sign up for text alerts to stay updated on our grant programs, loan forgiveness programs, repayment plans, and information about your loans.

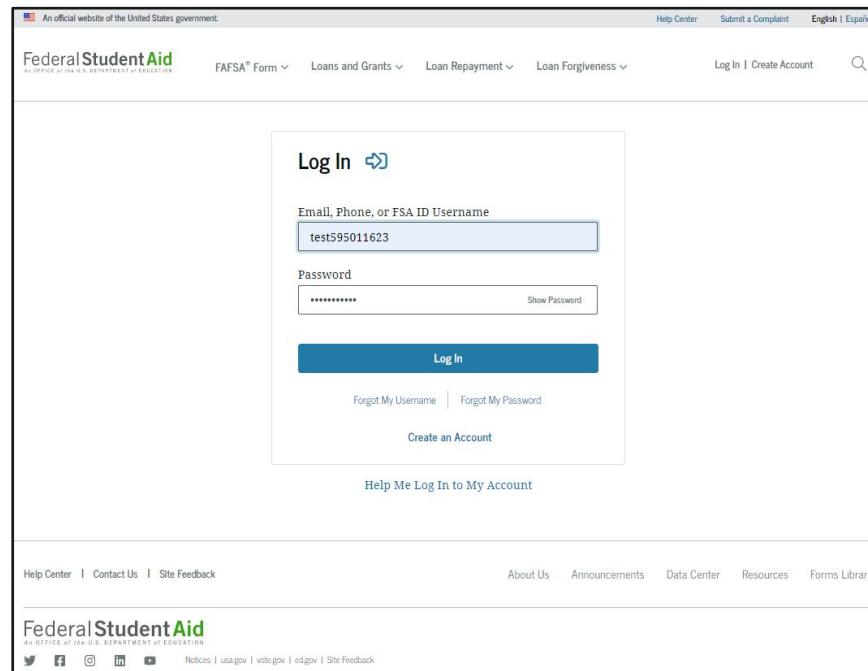
[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [LinkedIn](#) [YouTube](#)

This email was sent by Office of Federal Student Aid
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20202, USA

Please do not reply to this email. Messages sent to this email address are not monitored. If you wish to contact us, please use the [StudentAid.gov contact page](#). For more information about federal aid, visit [StudentAid.gov](#).

Dependent Student's Parent Log In

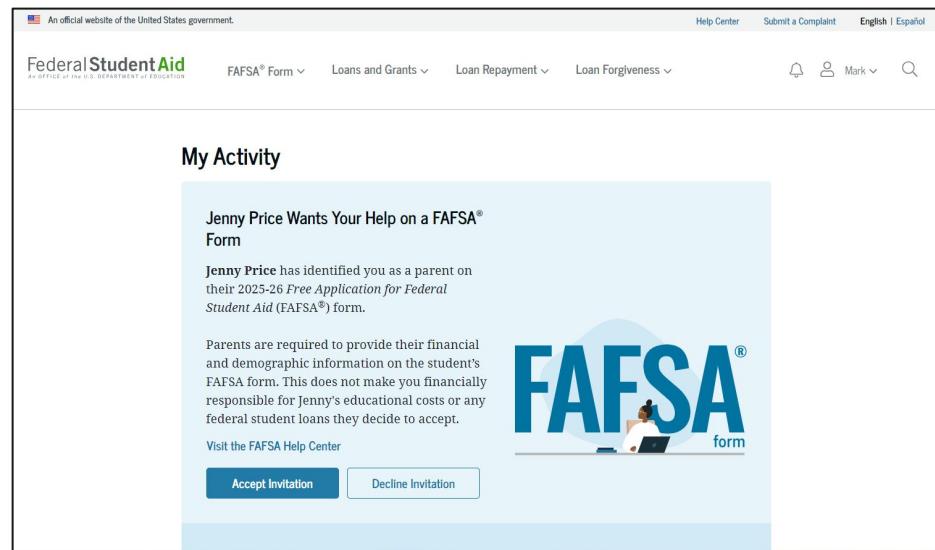
The parent is taken from their email to the "Log In" page to enter their credentials. To access the FAFSA® form, all users are required to have an FSA ID (StudentAid.gov account username and password). If the parent doesn't have an FSA ID, they can select "Create an Account."



The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website's log in page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Help Center, Submit a Complaint, English, and Spanish. Below the navigation bar, the Federal Student Aid logo is displayed, along with links for FAFSA® Form, Loans and Grants, Loan Repayment, and Loan Forgiveness. On the right side of the header, there are links for Log In and Create Account, and a search icon. The main content area is titled "Log In" and contains fields for "Email, Phone, or FSA ID Username" (with the value "test595011623") and "Password" (with a masked value). Below these fields is a large blue "Log In" button. Underneath the button, there are links for "Forgot My Username" and "Forgot My Password", and a "Create an Account" link. At the bottom of the page, there is a "Help Me Log In to My Account" link. The footer contains links for Help Center, Contact Us, Site Feedback, About Us, Announcements, Data Center, Resources, and Forms Library. The footer also includes the Federal Student Aid logo and links for social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube) and site feedback.

Parent Status Center – My Activity

After successfully logging in, the parent is taken to their "My Activity" section. The parent sees an invitation to be a contributor on the student's FAFSA® form.



An official website of the United States government.

FederalStudentAid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Help Center | Submit a Complaint | English | Español

FAFSA® Form | Loans and Grants | Loan Repayment | Loan Forgiveness

Mark | Search

My Activity

Jenny Price Wants Your Help on a FAFSA® Form

Jenny Price has identified you as a parent on their 2025-26 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form.

Parents are required to provide their financial and demographic information on the student's FAFSA form. This does not make you financially responsible for Jenny's educational costs or any federal student loans they decide to accept.

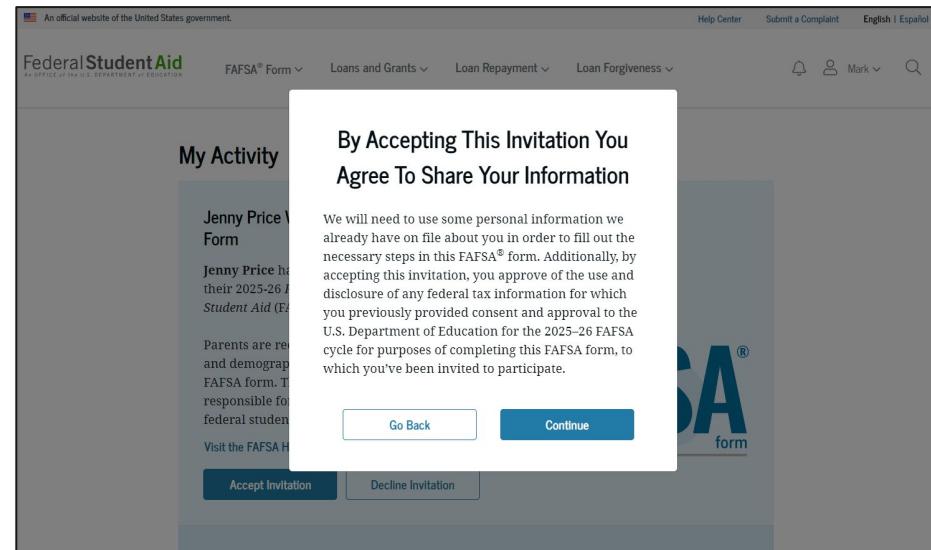
Visit the FAFSA Help Center

Accept Invitation | Decline Invitation

FAFSA®
form

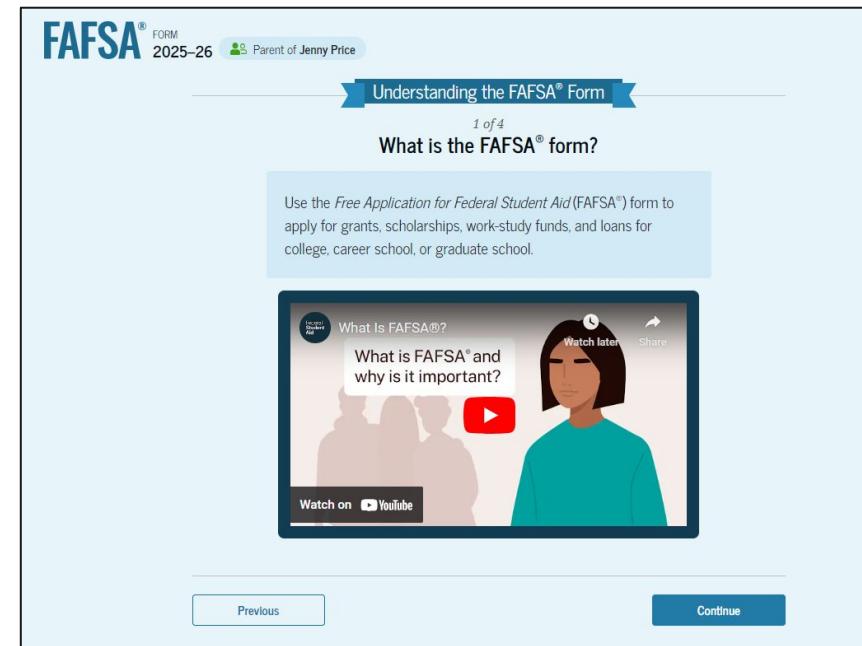
Parent Status Center – My Activity (Continued)

When the parent selects "Accept Invitation," a pop-up window appears to remind the parent that their personal information is needed to fill out the student's FAFSA® form. The parent selects "Continue" to agree to sharing their information and enters the FAFSA form.



Dependent Student's Parent Onboarding (1 of 4)

When the parent enters a 2025–26 FAFSA® form for the first time, they are taken through the FAFSA onboarding process. The first onboarding page provides an introduction of the FAFSA form and an accompanying video.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA onboarding interface. At the top, it says "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26" and "Parent of Jenny Price". Below that, a banner reads "Understanding the FAFSA® Form" with "1 of 4" and "What is the FAFSA® form?". A text box explains the purpose of the FAFSA form. Below this is a video player titled "What Is FAFSA?". The video shows a woman speaking and a red "Watch on YouTube" button. At the bottom are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Onboarding (2 of 4)

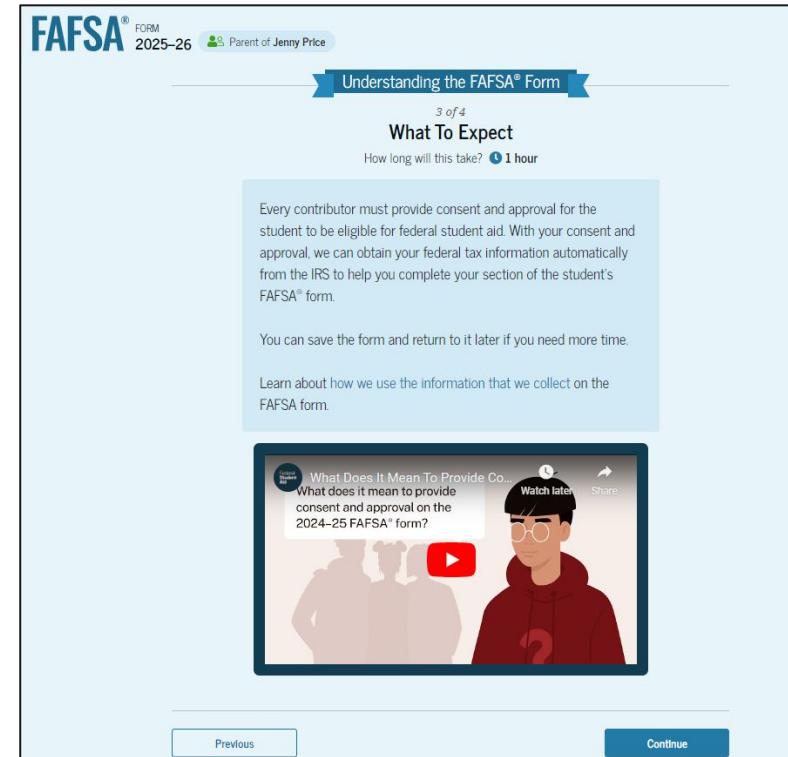
The second FAFSA® onboarding page provides information about contributors that may be required to participate in the student's FAFSA form, including an accompanying video that explains contributors, and information on how the parent will invite them. Documents that may be needed to fill out the form are also included on this page.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA onboarding page for the 2025-26 form. The top navigation bar includes the FAFSA logo, the year '2025-26', and a user indicator 'Parent of Jenny Price'. The main content area is titled 'Understanding the FAFSA® Form' and '2 of 4 Contributors to the FAFSA® Form'. It features a video thumbnail titled 'Who is a Contributor on the 2024-25 FAFSA® form?'. Below the video, there are sections for 'Parents or Spouses' and 'How To Invite'. The 'Parents or Spouses' section explains that answers on the FAFSA form will determine if any contributors need to be identified, and that these contributors will complete their own sections of the form and are asked to provide personal and financial information, but they will not be financially responsible for the student's education. The 'How To Invite' section explains that contributors will need to log in with their own FSA ID to provide their information. To invite a contributor to a FAFSA form, you'll need to provide their name, date of birth, Social Security number (if they have one), and email address. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons, and a link to 'Information or Documents You May Need'.

Dependent Student's Parent Onboarding (3 of 4)

The third FAFSA® onboarding page provides information about what the parent can expect when completing the student's FAFSA form. This includes information about consent and approval, a time estimate to complete the form, and that they can save the form and return later if needed, along with an accompanying video.



FAFSA® FORM 2025–26 Parent of Jenny Price

Understanding the FAFSA® Form

3 of 4

What To Expect

How long will this take? 1 hour

Every contributor must provide consent and approval for the student to be eligible for federal student aid. With your consent and approval, we can obtain your federal tax information automatically from the IRS to help you complete your section of the student's FAFSA® form.

You can save the form and return to it later if you need more time.

Learn about how we use the information that we collect on the FAFSA form.

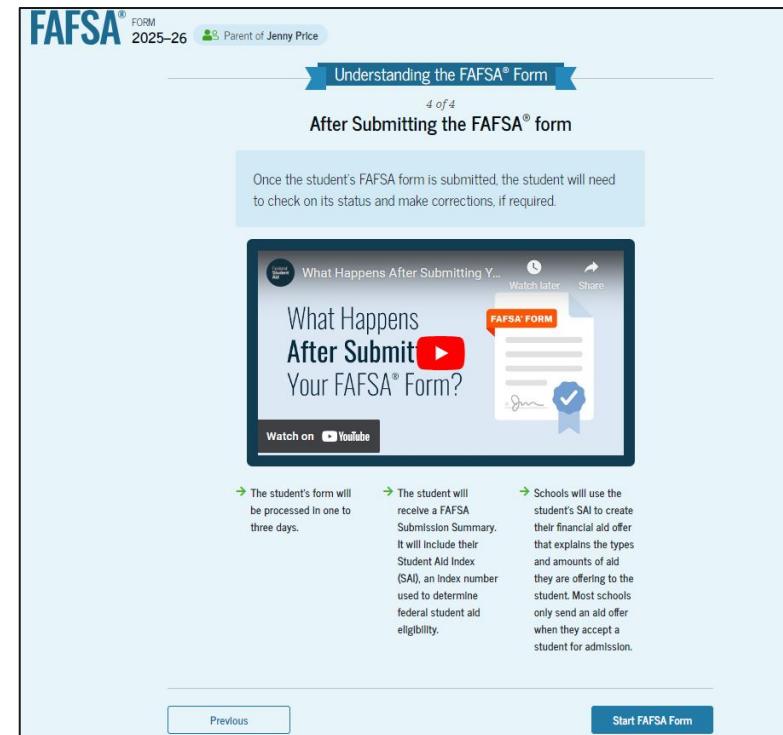
What Does It Mean To Provide Consent and Approval on the 2024-25 FAFSA® Form?

Watch later Share

Previous Continue

Dependent Student's Parent Onboarding (4 of 4)

The last onboarding page provides information about what to expect once the FAFSA® form is completed, submitted, and processed. On this page, the parent selects "Start FAFSA Form" to begin the parent section.



The screenshot shows a FAFSA Onboarding page titled "Understanding the FAFSA® Form" (4 of 4). The page is titled "After Submitting the FAFSA® form". It includes a video thumbnail for "What Happens After Submitting Your FAFSA® Form?" and a list of three points about what happens after submission:

- The student's form will be processed in one to three days.
- The student will receive a FAFSA Submission Summary. It will include their Student Aid Index (SAI), an index number used to determine federal student aid eligibility.
- Schools will use the student's SAI to create their financial aid offer that explains the types and amounts of aid they are offering to the student. Most schools only send an aid offer when they accept a student for admission.

At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Start FAFSA Form" buttons.

Introduction: Dependent Student's Parent Finances

This is the first page within the "Parent Financials" section. It provides an overview of the section.

**FAFSA® FORM
2025-26**

Parent Finances

The FAFSA® form helps determine the student's eligibility for federal student aid. We ask about your financial information in this section.

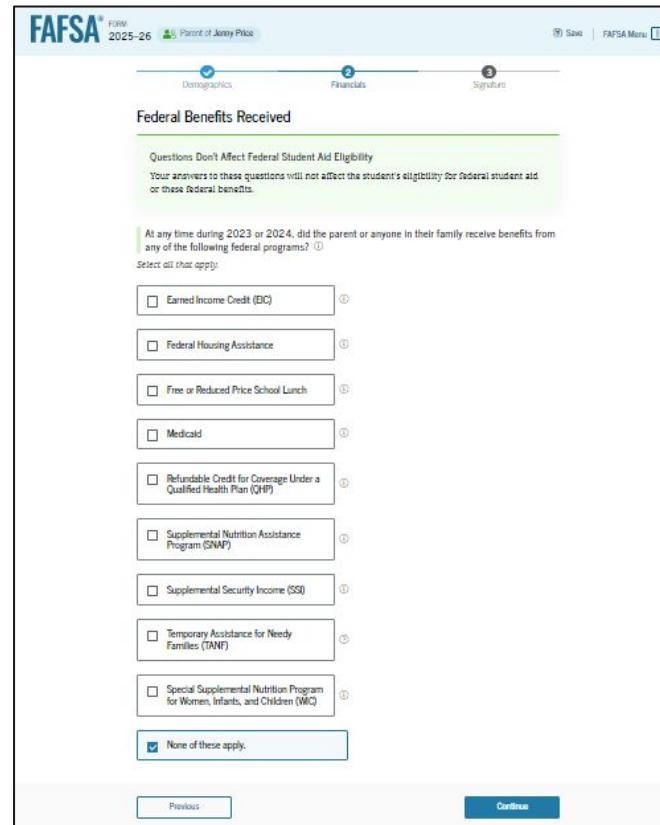
What if you have special financial circumstances?

[Previous](#) [Continue](#)



Dependent Student's Parent Federal Benefits Received

This page asks the parent if they or anyone in their family has received federal benefits. The parent selects "None of these apply."



FAFSA Form 2025-26 Parent of Jenny Price

1 Demographics 2 Financials 3 Signature

Federal Benefits Received

Questions Don't Affect Federal Student Aid Eligibility
Your answers to these questions will not affect the student's eligibility for federal student aid or these federal benefits.

At any time during 2023 or 2024, did the parent or anyone in their family receive benefits from any of the following federal programs? ⓘ

Select all that apply.

Earned Income Credit (EIC)

Federal Housing Assistance

Free or Reduced Price School Lunch

Medicaid

Refundable Credit for Coverage Under a Qualified Health Plan (QHP)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

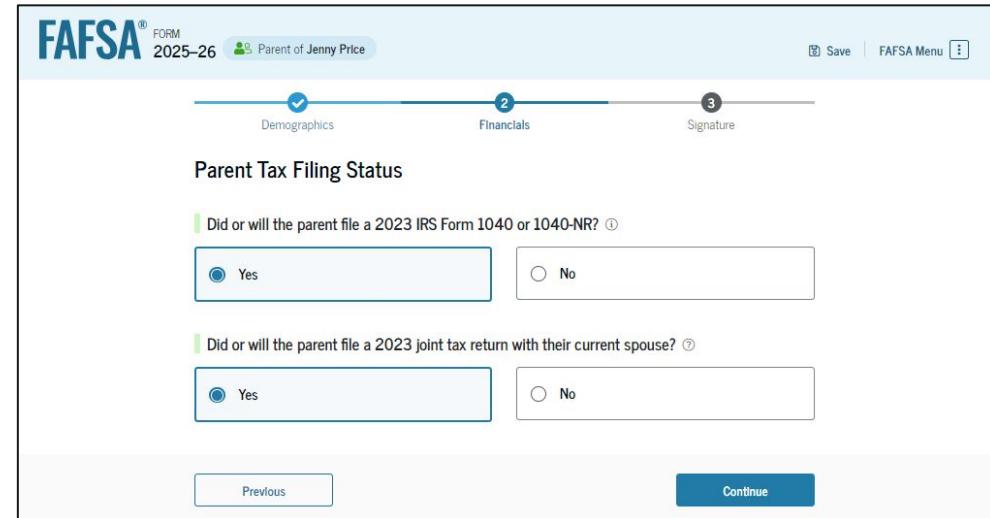
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

None of these apply.

Previous Continue

Dependent Student's Parent Tax Filing Status

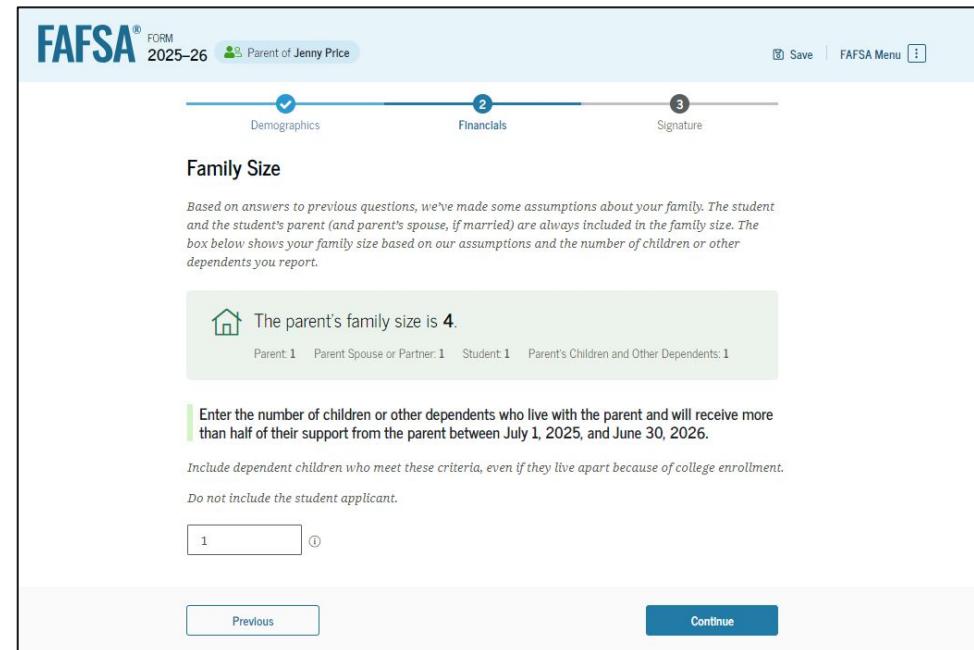
This page asks the parent about their tax filing status. The parent selects "Yes" to "Did or will the parent file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR?" and "Yes" to "Did or will the parent file a 2023 joint tax return with their current spouse?"



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Form 2025-26 interface. At the top, it displays "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26" and "Parent of Jenny Price". A progress bar at the top right shows steps 1 (Demographics), 2 (Financials), and 3 (Signature). The main section is titled "Parent Tax Filing Status". It contains two questions with radio button options. The first question is "Did or will the parent file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR?". The "Yes" option is selected. The second question is "Did or will the parent file a 2023 joint tax return with their current spouse?". The "Yes" option is also selected. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Family Size

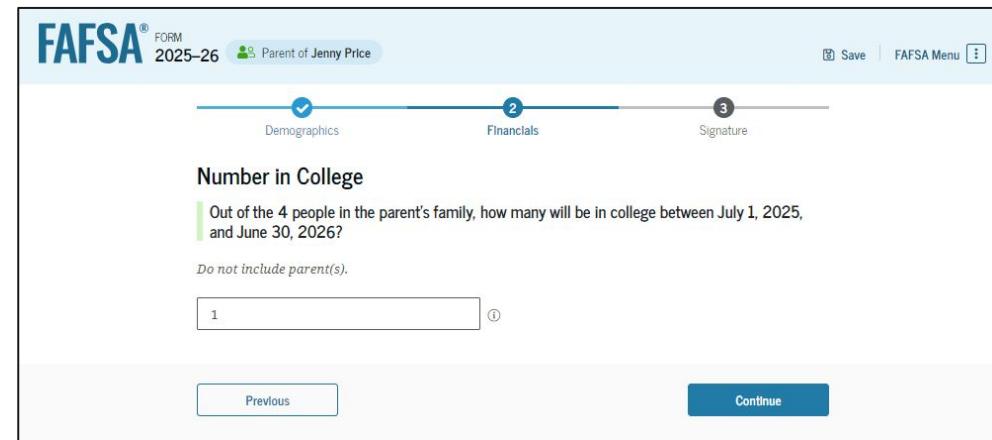
This page displays the family size for the student. The parent has the option to enter the number of children or other dependents who live with the parent and will receive more than half of their support from the parent between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Form 2025-26 interface. At the top, it displays 'FAFSA® FORM 2025-26' and 'Parent of Jenny Price'. There are three tabs: 'Demographics' (which is checked), 'Financials', and 'Signature'. Below the tabs, the section is titled 'Family Size'. A text box states: 'Based on answers to previous questions, we've made some assumptions about your family. The student and the student's parent (and parent's spouse, if married) are always included in the family size. The box below shows your family size based on our assumptions and the number of children or other dependents you report.' A green box below this text contains the message: 'The parent's family size is 4.' It also lists: 'Parent: 1', 'Parent Spouse or Partner: 1', 'Student: 1', and 'Parent's Children and Other Dependents: 1'. A text input field contains the value '1'. Below the input field, instructions say: 'Enter the number of children or other dependents who live with the parent and will receive more than half of their support from the parent between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.' and 'Include dependent children who meet these criteria, even if they live apart because of college enrollment.' It also says 'Do not include the student applicant.' At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Number in College

This page asks the parent how many people in the family will be in college between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026. The parent enters a response into the entry field.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2025-26 application interface. At the top, it displays the FAFSA logo, the form year '2025-26', and the user information 'Parent of Jenny Price'. A progress bar at the top right indicates the current step is 'Demographics' (step 1 of 3). The main section is titled 'Number in College' and asks, 'Out of the 4 people in the parent's family, how many will be in college between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026?'. A note below says, 'Do not include parent(s.)'. A text input field contains the number '1'. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Tax Return Information

The parent is asked questions about their 2023 tax return. The parent enters a response in each entry field.

Parent 2023 Tax Return Information

Refer to the parent's 2023 tax return to answer the following questions. If the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0.

Report Combined Taxes
Report the combined tax information for the parent and their spouse.

Where to find this information on the tax form

Filing Status

Single
 Head of household
 Married filing jointly
 Married filing separately
 Qualifying surviving spouse

Income Earned From Work
\$ 1,000.00

Tax Exempt Interest Income
\$ 0.00

Unused Portions of IRA Distributions
\$ 0.00

Unused Portions of Pensions
\$ 0.00

Adjusted Gross Income
\$ 3,000.00

Income Tax Paid
\$ 1,000.00

IRA Deductions and Payments to Self-Employed SEP, SIMPLE, and Qualified Plans
\$ 0.00

Education Credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit)
\$ 0.00

Did the parent file a Schedule A, B, D, E, F, or H with their 2023 IRS Form 1040?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

Net Profit or Loss From IRS Form 1040 Schedule C
\$ 0.00

Amount of College Grants, Scholarships, or AmeriCorps Benefits Reported as Income to the IRS
The parent paid taxes on these grants, scholarships, or benefits. These usually apply to those completing their FAFSA® form again, not to first-time applicants. If married, include amount parent's spouse/partner received.

Foreign Earned Income Exclusion
\$ 0.00

Previous **Continue**

Dependent Student's Parent Assets

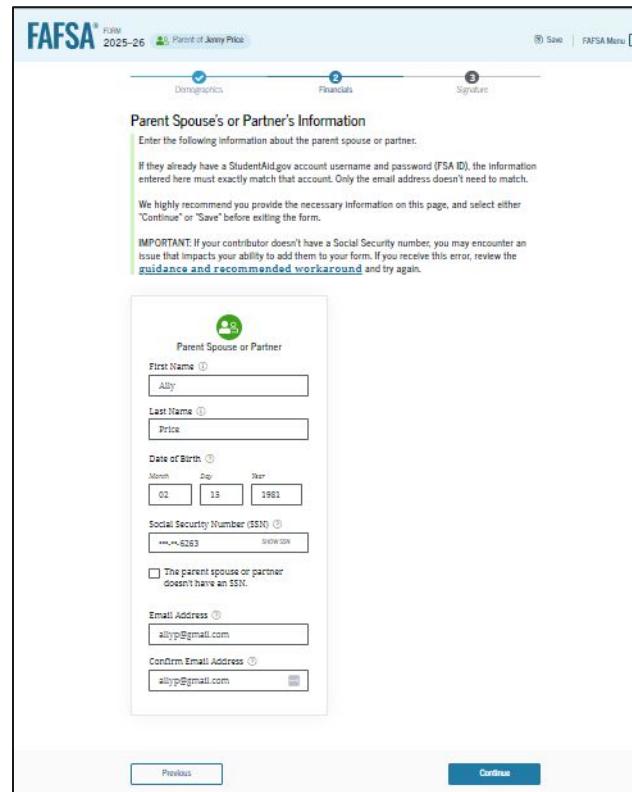
The parent is asked about their assets.

The parent enters a response in each entry field.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2025-26 application interface. At the top, it says "FAFSA FORM 2025-26" and "Parent of Jenny Price". There is a progress bar with three steps: "Demographics" (checkmark), "Financials" (circle with a question mark), and "Signature" (circle with a question mark). On the right, there are "Save" and "FAFSA Menu" buttons. The main area is titled "Report Combined Assets and Child Support Received" with the instruction "Report the combined assets and child support received for both parents." Below this is a section for "Annual Child Support Received" with the instruction "Enter the total amount of child support the parent received for the last complete calendar year." A text input field shows "\$ 0.00". The next section is "Parent Assets" with the instruction "Total Amount of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts on the Date the FAFSA Form Was First Submitted" and the note "Don't include student aid." A text input field shows "\$ 300.00". The third section is "Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate, on the Date the FAFSA Form Was First Submitted" with the note "Don't include the home the parent lives in. Net worth is the value of the investments minus any debts owed against them." A text input field shows "\$ 0.00". The final section is "Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms on the Date the FAFSA Form Was First Submitted" with the note "Enter the net worth of the parent's businesses and for-profit agricultural operations. Net worth is the value of the businesses and farms minus any debts owed against them." A text input field shows "\$ 0.00". At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student's Other Parent Information

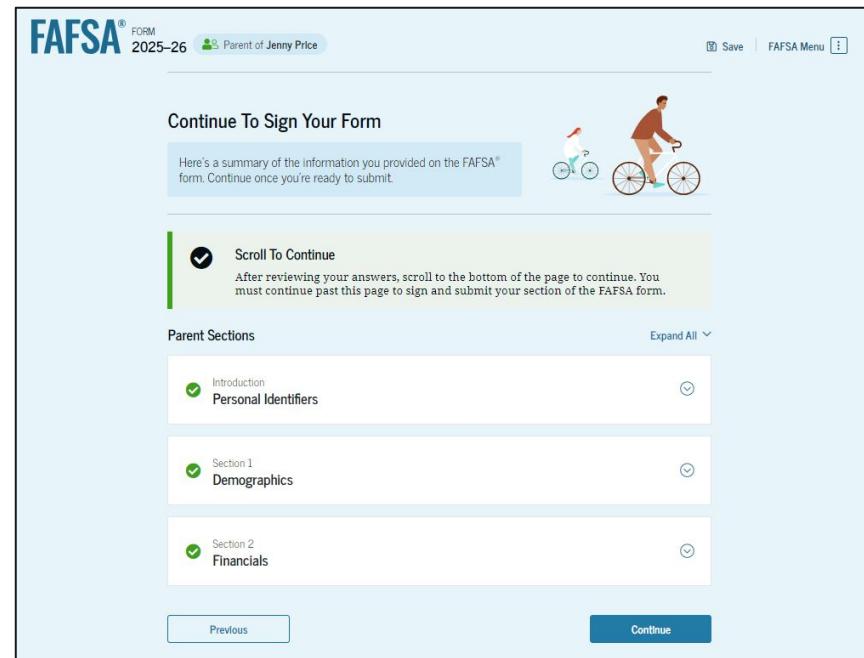
The parent is asked to provide information about their spouse or partner. In this example, the other parent does not need to contribute to the student's FAFSA® form because the parents filed taxes jointly. After providing the other parent's information, all required parent information will be complete.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2025-26 application interface. At the top, it displays 'FAFSA FORM 2025-26' and 'Parent of Jenny Price'. Below the header, there are three tabs: 'Demographics' (which is selected), 'Financials', and 'Signatures'. The main content area is titled 'Parent Spouse's or Partner's Information' and contains the following instructions: 'Enter the following information about the parent spouse or partner. If they already have a StudentAid.gov account username and password (FSA ID), the information entered here must exactly match that account. Only the email address doesn't need to match.' It also includes a note: 'We highly recommend you provide the necessary information on this page, and select either "Continue" or "Save" before exiting the form.' A warning message states: 'IMPORTANT: If your contributor doesn't have a Social Security number, you may encounter an issue that impacts your ability to add them to your form. If you receive this error, review the [guidance and recommended workaround](#) and try again.' The form itself has fields for 'First Name' (Ally), 'Last Name' (Price), 'Date of Birth' (02/13/1982), 'Social Security Number (SSN)' (444-12-5263), and an optional checkbox for 'The parent spouse or partner doesn't have an SSN'. It also includes fields for 'Email Address' (allyp@gmail.com) and 'Confirm Email Address' (allyp@gmail.com). At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Review Page

The review page displays the responses that the parent has provided in the FAFSA® form. The parent can only view responses within the parent section of the student's FAFSA form. The parent can view all their responses by selecting "Expand All" or expand each section individually. To edit a response, the parent can select the question's hyperlink to be taken to the corresponding page.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Parent Review Page for the 2025-26 academic year. The page title is "FAFSA® FORM 2025-26 Parent of Jenny Price". It features a "Save" button and a "FAFSA Menu" icon. A banner at the top says "Continue To Sign Your Form" with the text: "Here's a summary of the information you provided on the FAFSA® form. Continue once you're ready to submit." Below this is an illustration of a person riding a bicycle. A callout box on the left says "Scroll To Continue" with the instruction: "After reviewing your answers, scroll to the bottom of the page to continue. You must continue past this page to sign and submit your section of the FAFSA form." The main content area is titled "Parent Sections" with a "Expand All" button. It lists three sections, each with a checkmark and a "Personal Identifiers" link: "Introduction Personal Identifiers", "Section 1 Demographics", and "Section 2 Financials". At the bottom are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Dependent Student's Parent Signature

On this page, the parent acknowledges the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and signs their section. Since all required sections are complete, the parent can both sign and submit the student's FAFSA form.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA Sign and Submit page. At the top, it displays the FAFSA logo, the year 2025-26, and the name 'Parent of Jenny Price'. There are three tabs: Demographics (selected), Financials, and Signature. The Signature tab shows a progress bar with three steps: Demographics, Financials, and Signature, with the first two completed and the third partially completed. The main content area is titled 'Sign and Submit the FAFSA® Form'. It contains a summary box with the following text:

Summary
This page confirms that you understand the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and filled out the form accurately to the best of your ability.

The FAFSA form is a legal document you will electronically sign with your account username and password (FSA ID). Because your FSA ID is associated with your personal information, do not share it with anyone.

Below this, there is a section titled 'By signing the student's application electronically using your account username and password, YOU, THE PARENT, certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked, to provide:

- Information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form, and
- U.S. or foreign income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

There is also a section for certifying to the Secretary of Education:

You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application.

Legal disclaimers follow:

If you sign this application or any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposefully give false or misleading information, including applying as an independent student without meeting the unusual circumstances required to qualify for such a status, you may be subject to criminal penalties under 20 U.S.C. 1097, which may include a fine up to \$20,000, imprisonment, or both.

Additionally, by signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to disclose all information you provided on this application, as required under Section 483(a)(2)(D)(ii) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to the institutions identified herein, state higher education agencies (in the student's state of residence and the states in which the institutions identified herein are located), and designated scholarship organizations to assist with the application, award, and administration of federal, state, or institutional financial aid programs and designated scholarship programs. Notwithstanding this authorization, the name of an institution the student selected to authorize such disclosure shall not be shared with any other institution.

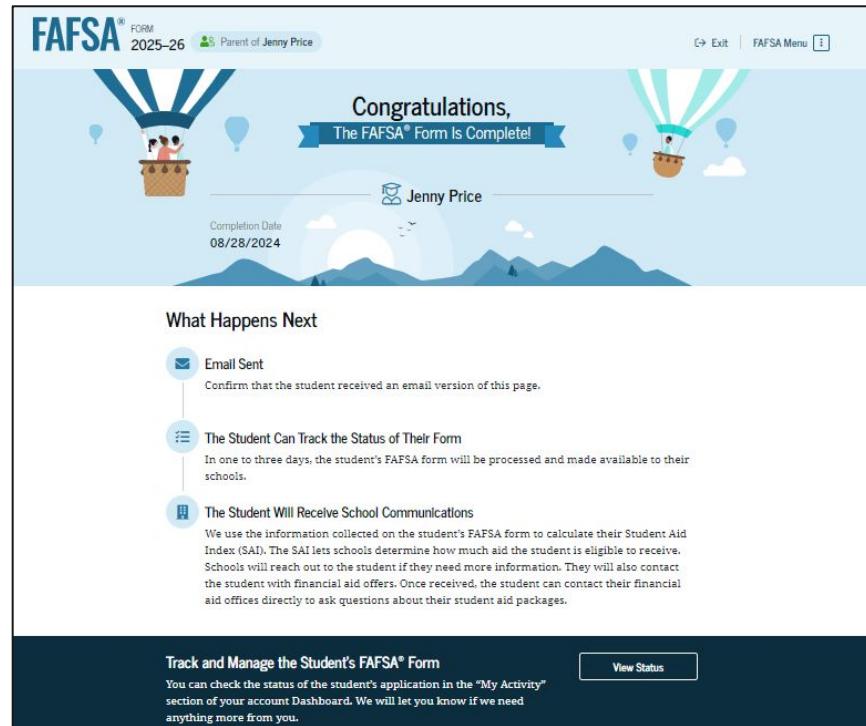
At the bottom, there is a sign-off box:

Sign for yourself and submit the application for Jenny Price (Student).
 I, Mark Price, agree to the terms outlined above.

Buttons for 'Previous' and 'Sign and Submit' are at the bottom.

Dependent Student FAFSA® Confirmation

Upon submitting the student's FAFSA® form, the parent is presented an abbreviated confirmation page. This page displays information about tracking the student's FAFSA form and next steps. The student will receive an email with the full, detailed confirmation. With the student and parent sections completed and signed, the FAFSA form is now considered complete and submitted for processing.



Phew!
Did I actually do that
in 5 minutes?

Watch for your FAFSA Submission Summary

Available almost immediately via email or in your StudentAid.gov account

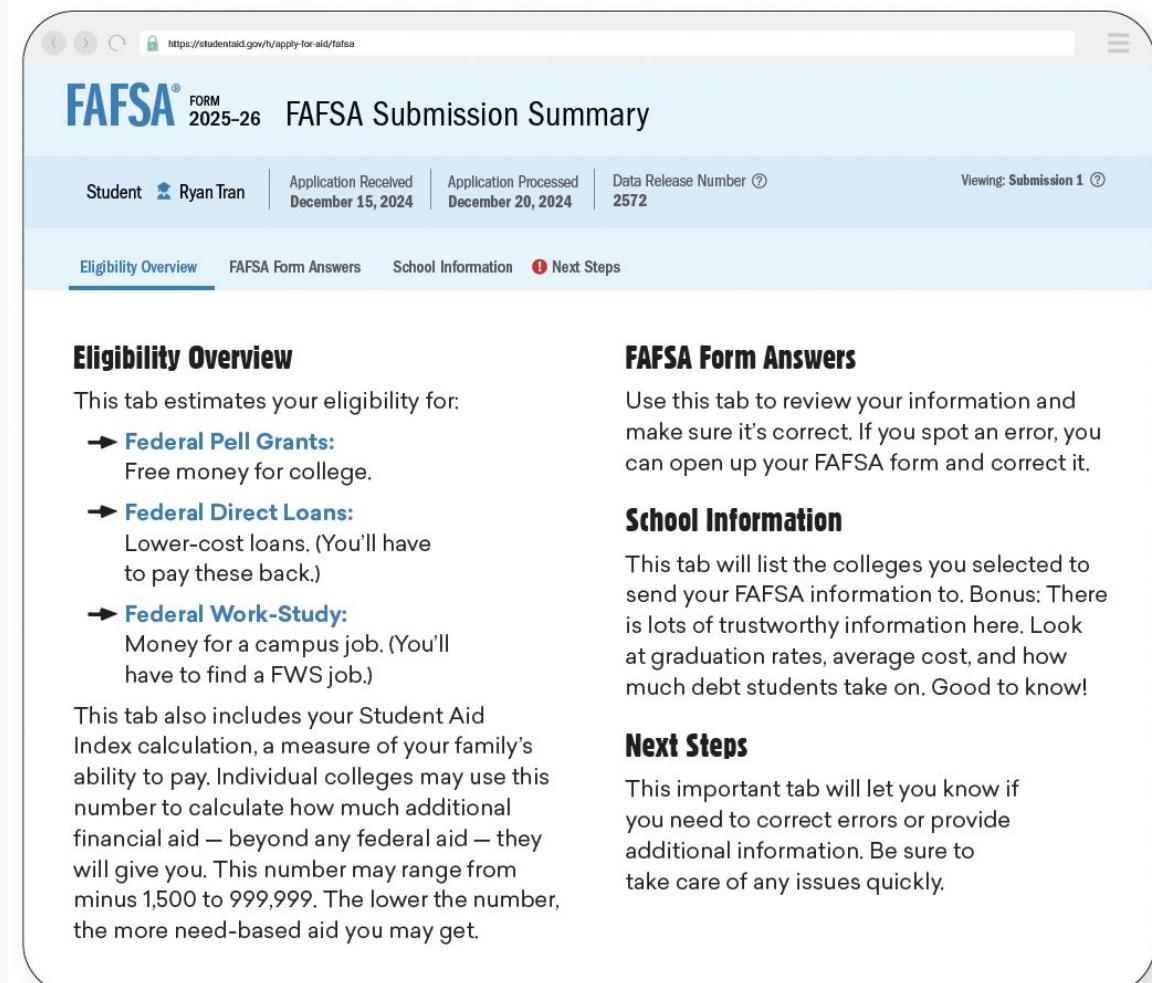
Look for:

1. An estimate of how much federal aid you are eligible for

2. Your Student Aid Index

3. FAFSA's Next Steps

4. Check StudentAid.gov, your college portals & email



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Submission Summary page from the StudentAid.gov website. At the top, it displays the FAFSA logo and "FORM 2025-26". Below that, it shows the student's name, Ryan Tran, and the submission dates: "Application Received December 15, 2024" and "Application Processed December 20, 2024". The "Data Release Number" is 2572. The "Viewing" status is "Submission 1". The page is divided into several tabs: "Eligibility Overview" (which is underlined, indicating it's the active tab), "FAFSA Form Answers", "School Information", and "Next Steps". The "Eligibility Overview" section contains text about estimated aid and three bullet points: "Federal Pell Grants" (free money for college), "Federal Direct Loans" (lower-cost loans that need to be repaid), and "Federal Work-Study" (money for a campus job). The "School Information" section is described as listing selected colleges and providing graduation rates, average cost, and debt information. The "Next Steps" section is described as helping users manage errors and provide additional information. The URL in the browser bar is https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

Eligibility Overview

This tab estimates your eligibility for:

- **Federal Pell Grants:**
Free money for college.
- **Federal Direct Loans:**
Lower-cost loans. (You'll have to pay these back.)
- **Federal Work-Study:**
Money for a campus job. (You'll have to find a FWS job.)

This tab also includes your Student Aid Index calculation, a measure of your family's ability to pay. Individual colleges may use this number to calculate how much additional financial aid — beyond any federal aid — they will give you. This number may range from minus 1,500 to 999,999. The lower the number, the more need-based aid you may get.

FAFSA Form Answers

Use this tab to review your information and make sure it's correct. If you spot an error, you can open up your FAFSA form and correct it.

School Information

This tab will list the colleges you selected to send your FAFSA information to. Bonus: There is lots of trustworthy information here. Look at graduation rates, average cost, and how much debt students take on. Good to know!

Next Steps

This important tab will let you know if you need to correct errors or provide additional information. Be sure to take care of any issues quickly.

Student Aid Index (SAI)

Replaced the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Can go as low as – 1500! An SAI that is zero or below guarantees the most federal aid available, including the maximum Pell Grant (\$7395).

As this number climbs, there is less chance that you will get a Pell Grant, but you will still be eligible for federal loans.

New York State and colleges also use this number to figure out how much need-based aid you are eligible for.



Your Student Aid Index: What's a Good SAI?

<https://understandingfafsa.org/student-aid-index-what-is-a-good-sai>

Eligible students can receive up to \$5,665 to help cover tuition

Info For

For Academic Partners

Student Account Sign In



Find Aid

How To Apply

Plan For College

Get Help



- Available to students attending full-time, part-time and in non-degree workforce credential programs
- Must be a legal NYS resident for 12 continuous months prior to enrolling or qualified under NYS DREAM Act
- NYS net taxable income cannot exceed \$125,000 for dependent students; \$60,000 for married students with no dependents; \$30,000 for independent single students with no dependents



Deadline & Application

DEADLINE

06/30/2025

For Academic Year 2024-25

06/30/2026

For Academic Year 2025-26

[Apply Through The FAFSA →](#)

Didn't apply for TAP through the FAFSA?

[Apply for TAP](#) | [Get FAFSA Guidance](#)

New York State TAP

Watch for the TAP link at the end of the FAFSA.

<https://www.hesc.ny.gov/find-aid/nys-grants-scholarships/tuition-assistance-program-tap/>

NYS DREAM Act

[Home](#) / [Applying For Aid](#) / [NYS DREAM Act](#)

How to Apply

[Prepare What You Need](#)

[FAFSA Guidance](#)

[NYS DREAM Act](#)

NYS DREAM Act

Frequently Asked
Questions

NYS DREAM Act Steps
to Apply



The Senator José Peralta New York State DREAM Act gives undocumented and other students access to New York State-administered student financial aid to support their higher education costs.

Students eligible to apply for financial aid through the NYS DREAM Act must also complete an application for each program they are interested in obtaining aid from.

[Apply Today.](#)

New York State Dream Act

All New York aid is available for undocumented students.

<https://www.hesc.ny.gov/applying-aid/nys-dream-act/>

CSS Profile

Each year CSS Profile unlocks access to more than \$10 billion in nonfederal aid to thousands of students.

[Sign in to Fall 2025/Spring 2026](#)[Sign in to Fall 2024/Spring 2025](#)

Check Participating Schools and Scholarships

Review which colleges, schools, and scholarship programs use CSS Profile.

[Learn More](#)

Learn How to Apply

Review our step-by-step guide to completing your CSS Profile application.

[Complete the Application](#)

Information for Parents

Learn more about completing the CSS Profile as a parent, including as a noncustodial parent.

[Information for Parents](#)

BigFuture®

Need more information on paying for college? Learn more on BigFuture!

[BigFuture.org](#)

The College Board's CSS Profile

Just like the FAFSA. With 100X more questions.

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>

Filling Out the FAFSA & Applying for Aid: Getting More Help

For Undocumented Students

- [Grants and Scholarships for Undocumented Students](#)

For Parents Without Social Security Numbers

- [How to Get an FSA ID Without a Social Security Number](#)

FAFSA & FSA ID Helpful Links

- [Federal Student Aid: Contact Us](#)
- [Federal Student Aid Estimator](#)
- [Creating Your StudentAid.gov Account \(FSA ID\)](#)
- [Who Counts as a Parent on the FAFSA Form?](#)



Q&A

Email anytime:
Kim Nauer | nauerk@newschool.edu

<https://UnderstandingFAFSA.org>