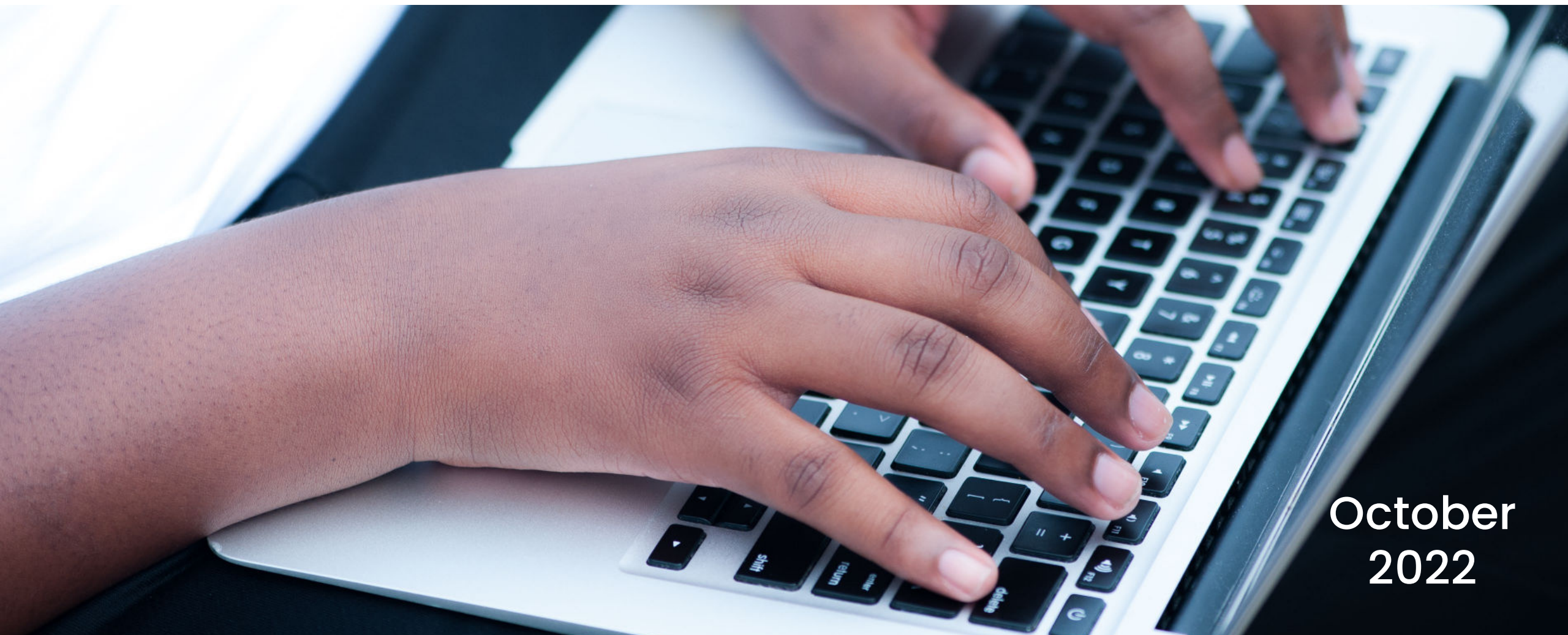




JOHN BURTON
Advocates
for Youth

Visual Step-by-Step FAFSA Guide for California Foster Youth

Fund Your Future: It's Possible!



October
2022

This Guide is intended to compliment the *Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth* with screen shots of the actual online FAFSA application and detailed step-by-step instructions for youth currently or formerly in the foster care system.

While we have made every effort to be accurate in this guide, financial aid programs change. Be sure to get current information.

Please reference the *Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth* for information on the different types of financial aid, what to do after the FAFSA, and how to maintain financial aid.

Visit: jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide/

Intended Audience

- This guide is intended for foster youth in California who qualify for “Independent Student Status” on the FAFSA (ex. a student who was in foster care on or after their 13th birthday or in a court-ordered legal guardianship). If you do not qualify for “Independent Student Status,” you will need to complete the Parental Demographics section and provide financial information about you and your parent(s). Information about this process is not included in this guide.
- Students who do not qualify as a foster youth but who cannot obtain parental information can request an exemption for special circumstances such as an abusive family, parental incarceration or when parents’ whereabouts are unknown. Note that circumstances such as parents not providing financial support or being unwilling to provide information do not alone qualify as special circumstances. More information is on pp. 60–62.
- If you are an undocumented student, including DACA recipients, fill out the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) at dream.csac.ca.gov instead of the FAFSA. If you are a California undocumented student, you should use the CADAA even if you were a DACA recipient and granted a temporary Social Security Number. Visit www.jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide for the *Visual Step-by-Step CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) Guide for California Foster Youth* or *Spanish Guide to Complete the Paper CA Dream Act Application*.
- If you are not a current or former foster youth but have experienced homelessness in California and do not live with your parent(s), you *may* also qualify for “Independent Student Status.” Please see here to learn more: jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide-for-ca-homeless-youth/

How to Apply for Financial Aid

Complete These Three Steps to Apply for Financial Aid

Step #1:

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

View pages 6–102

Step #2:

If eligible, complete the Chafee Grant application

(It's best to complete this right after you fill out your FAFSA):

View pages 103–106

Step #3:

Create a WebGrants 4 Students Account

(Do this after your FAFSA is processed, about 2 weeks later)

View pages 107–111

See page 112 for key tips after applying for financial aid.

Where to Apply for Financial Aid



IF YOU ARE A U.S. CITIZEN, A PERMANENT RESIDENT OR OTHER ELIGIBLE NON-CITIZEN*

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Apply at: fafsa.gov
(Paper application are also available but not recommended)

What are you eligible for? Both federal (i.e. Pell Grant, Federal Work Study etc.) and state financial aid (i.e. Cal Grant).

OR

IF YOU ARE AN ELIGIBLE UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT

Complete the California Dream Act Application (CADAA)

Apply at: dream.csac.ca.gov
(Paper applications are in both English and Spanish. The online application is in English only.)

Learn more by visiting:
www.jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide for step-by-step guides for the online and paper CADAA.

*What is an eligible non-citizen? Examples include a U.S. permanent resident who has a green card (Permanent Resident Card), a conditional permanent resident with a conditional Green Card, or a "refugee." You can find the complete list on the FAFSA.

When to Apply

- Students planning to attend a four-year university should apply between October 1 and March 2 before the start of the school year, in particular to ensure eligibility for a Cal Grant and institutional aid.
- Community college students have until September 2 to apply for a Cal Grant.
- Other forms of aid such as the Pell Grant have later application deadlines, but all students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible to qualify for maximum aid.

Some colleges may have earlier priority deadlines, so check with your campus.

Students can apply for financial aid before they submit college applications.

What to Bring to Apply for Financial Aid

Social Security Number or Alien Registration Number

Make sure you know your Social Security Number and name exactly as it appears on your Social Security Card.

Email Address

Use an email address that you check often. Avoid high school emails that expire.

List of up to 10 colleges you plan to apply to

You can update this later, if needed. At least one is required to complete the application.

Tax information, if you filed a tax return, or information about the income you earned or received for the requested prior-prior year (i.e., if you are applying for the 2023-2024 school year you must provide tax and income info from 2021). You may be able to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to transfer tax information from your federal income tax return into the FAFSA, if applicable.

STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW FAFSA AT FAFSA.GOV

Reminder:

The FAFSA must be filled out EVERY year!
This is a FREE application.

New to the FAFSA Process:

Click "Start Here"

Returning User:

Click "Log In."

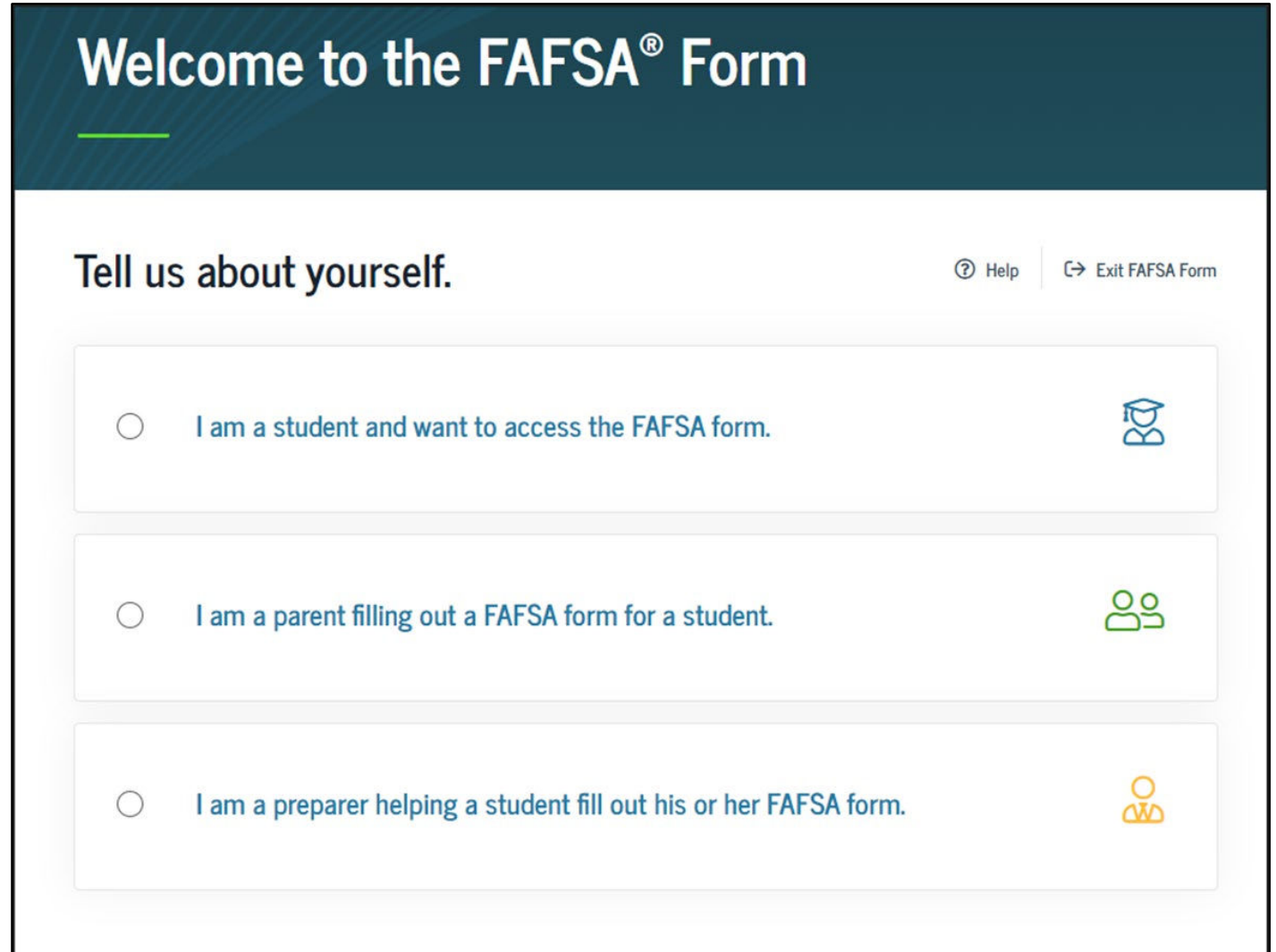
This allows you to prefill the current year's FAFSA with some data from last year's FAFSA.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: "Federal Student Aid" (with a subtext "An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION"), "FAFSA® Form" with a dropdown arrow, "Loans and Grants" with a dropdown arrow, "Loan Repayment" with a dropdown arrow, and "Loan Forgiveness" with a dropdown arrow. A search icon is located on the far right. The main content area features a large banner with the text "Complete the FAFSA® Form" and a subtext "Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school." Below this, there are two main sections: "New to the FAFSA® Process?" with the subtext "Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now." and a "Start Here" button; and "Returning User?" with subtext "Correct info | Add a school" and "View your Student Aid Report (SAR)", and a "Log In" button. Two orange arrows originate from the callout boxes on the left: one points to the "Start Here" button and the other points to the "Log In" button.



STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW FAFSA AT FAFSA.GOV

When you start a new FAFSA, there are three log-in options.

→ Choose the option that says: "I am a student and want to access the FAFSA form."



The screenshot shows the "Welcome to the FAFSA® Form" page. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the title "Welcome to the FAFSA® Form" in white. Below the header, the main content area is white. The heading "Tell us about yourself." is followed by two links: "Help" (with a question mark icon) and "Exit FAFSA Form" (with an exit icon). There are three radio button options, each in a light gray box with a blue icon on the right:

- I am a student and want to access the FAFSA form. 
- I am a parent filling out a FAFSA form for a student. 
- I am a preparer helping a student fill out his or her FAFSA form. 

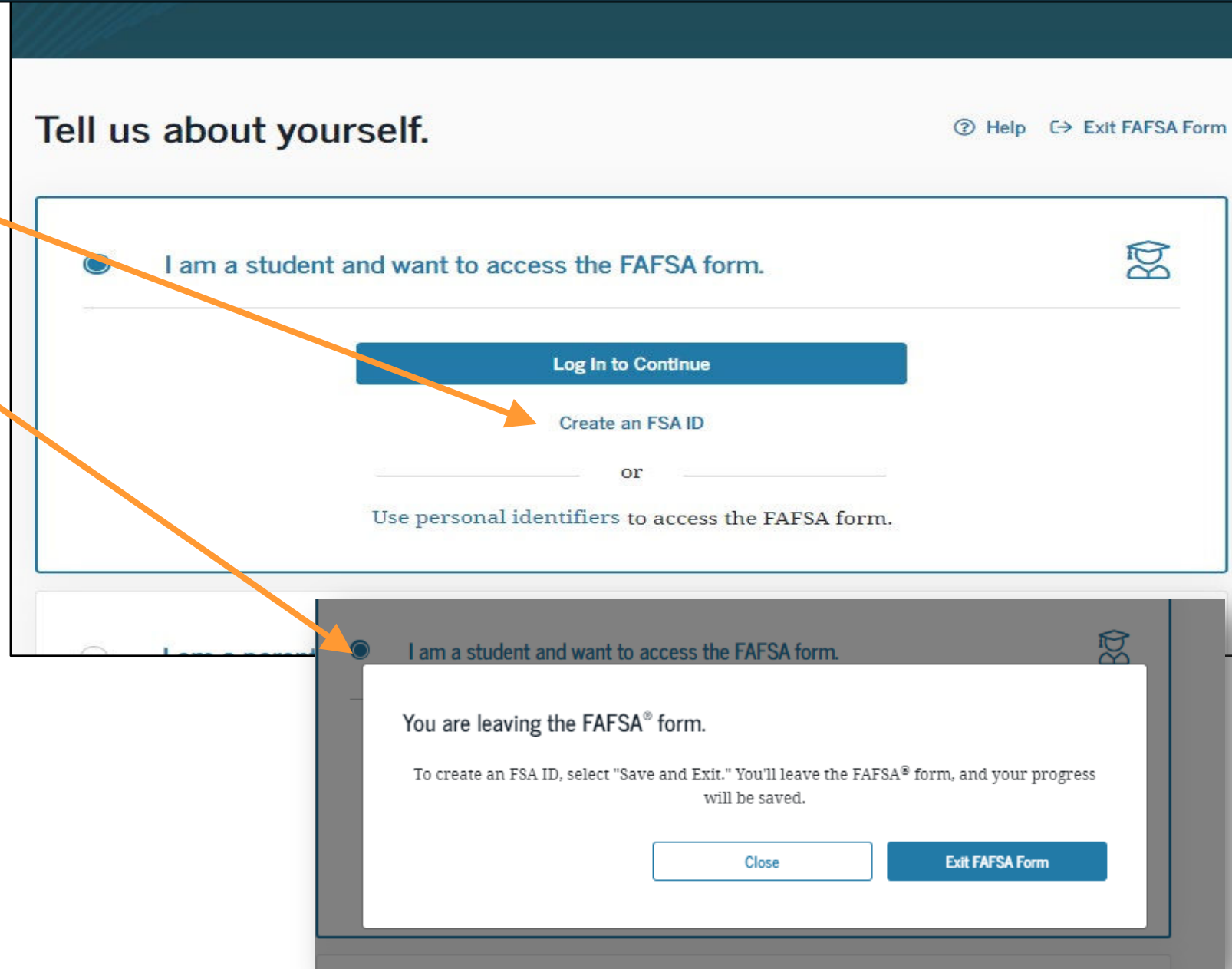
STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW FAFSA AT FAFSA.GOV

Log In:

Click the blue link that says ["Create an FSA ID."](#)

Next, click "Exit FAFSA Form" to go to the FSA ID website.

You can start a FAFSA without an FSA ID, but it will serve as your legal signature, and you will need it to sign your FAFSA electronically before you submit the FAFSA.



STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW FAFSA AT FAFSA.GOV

You may also choose to begin the FAFSA form with personal identifiers: first name, last name, date of birth, and Social Security number, *however an FSA ID will be required to sign your FAFSA at the end.*

Once you have entered your personal identifiers, select "Continue."

Use personal identifiers to access the FAFSA form.

Enter your personal identifiers.

Your First Name
 ?

Your Full Last Name
 ?

Your Date of Birth

Month	Day	Year	
<input type="text" value="12"/>	<input type="text" value="12"/>	<input type="text" value="2002"/>	?

Your Social Security Number
 ?

If you, the student, do not have a Social Security number because you are a citizen of a trust territory and this is your first time filling out the FAFSA form, enter 666 in this field.

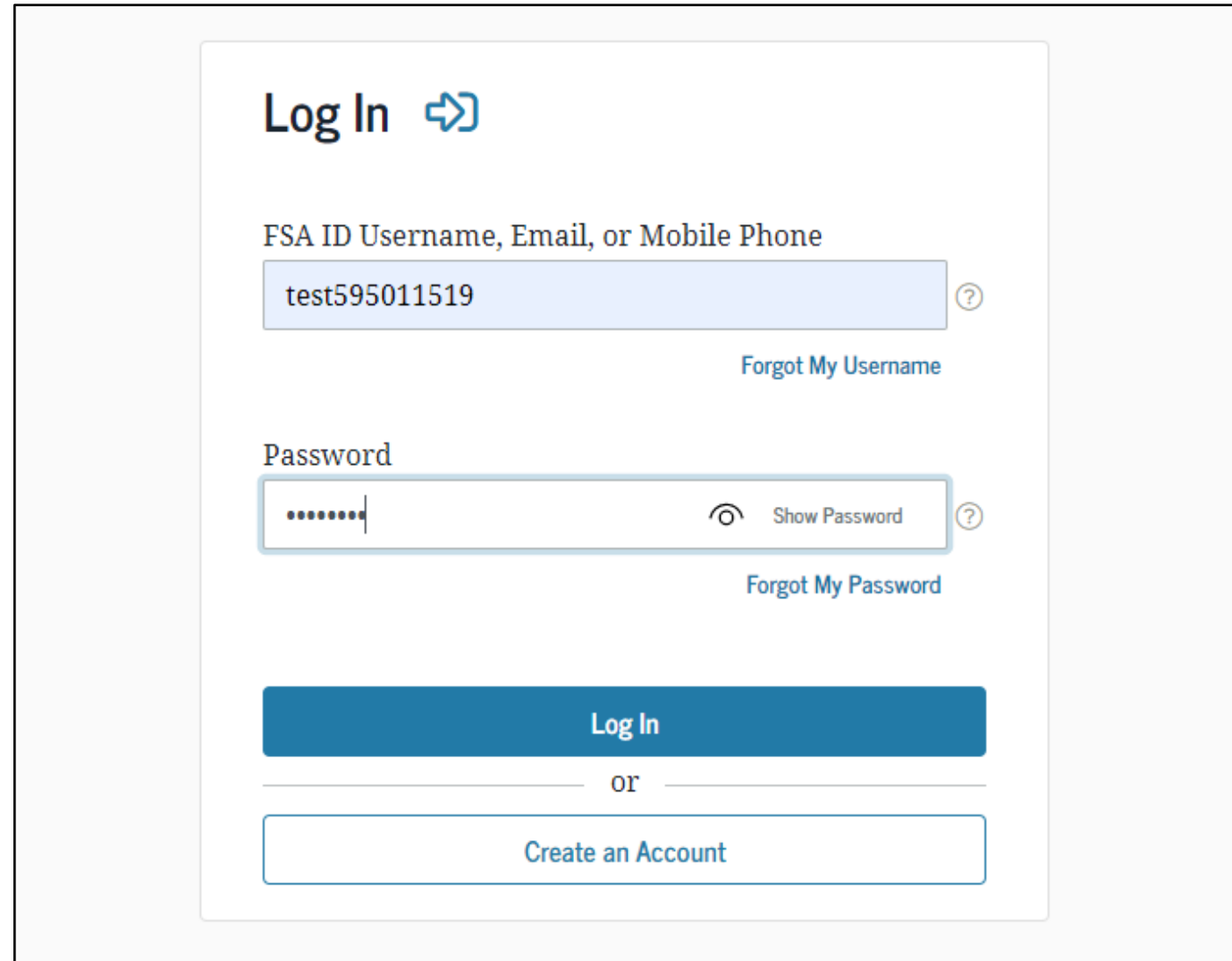
If you are a returning trust territory student who has previously submitted the FAFSA form, enter the entire 666 number we previously assigned to you.

[I am from a freely associated state.](#)

STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW FAFSA AT FAFSA.GOV

Log in:

If you have an FSA ID account, you will be prompted to log in with your credentials. If not, select "Create an Account."



The screenshot shows the FAFSA login interface. At the top, it says "Log In" with a blue arrow icon. Below this is a text input field labeled "FSA ID Username, Email, or Mobile Phone" containing the text "test595011519". To the right of this field is a question mark icon and a link that says "Forgot My Username". Below the username field is a password input field labeled "Password" containing several dots. To the right of the password field is an eye icon, a "Show Password" link, and another question mark icon. Below the password field is a link that says "Forgot My Password". At the bottom of the form is a large blue button labeled "Log In". Below this button is the word "or" centered between two horizontal lines. At the very bottom is a white button with a blue border labeled "Create an Account".

Next: Create an “FSA ID”

Federal Student Aid Identification (FSA ID)

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to manage the student loan journey.

Get Started

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

What You Can Use Your Account For

- Filling out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form
- Signing your *Master Promissory Note (MPN)*
- Applying for repayment plans
- Completing loan counseling
- Using the *Public Service Loan Forgiveness Help Tool*

What You'll Need

- Social Security number
- Your own mobile phone number and/or email address

After selecting "Create an FSA ID" on the log-in page, you will be taken to a new page to create your FSA ID

→ Click "Get Started"

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Enter your name and Social Security Number exactly as they appear on your Social Security Card.

** If you don't know your Social Security Number, you can call your county's child welfare department or Independent Living Program (ILP) for assistance. You will need the physical card for employment, even for a work-study job.

** If you don't have a social security number, apply for the CADAA at dream.csac.ca.gov.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 1 of 7

Personal Information

I understand that I'll be required to certify that the information I provide to create an account (FSA ID) is true and correct and that I'm the individual I claim to be.

If I'm not the person I claim to be, I understand that I'm not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. If I provide false or misleading information, I understand that I might be subject to a fine, prison time, or both.

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

Date of Birth

Month

Day

Year

Social Security Number (SSN)

Note: A user can only have one account associated with his or her Social Security number.

Cancel

Continue

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Create a Username and Password that can be easily remembered but not easy for someone else to figure out (ex. Do not use your name, date of birth, or the word "password").

→ Enter an email address that you check often so that you can get help if you get locked out or forget your username or password. It is not recommended that you use a high school email address, since those often expire. Create or use an email address that you can use throughout college, such as Gmail, Yahoo or Outlook.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 2 of 7

Account Information

Because financial aid agreements are legally binding, you can't create an account for someone else, even another family member. Parents and students must create their own accounts.

Username

?

Email Address

?

Confirm Email Address

?

Password

Show Password ?

✓ Uppercase

✓ Lowercase

✓ Number

✓ 8+ characters

Confirm Password

Show Password ?

Previous

Continue

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ A mailing address is optional, but you MUST provide a verified email address or mobile phone.

→ Indicate if you want to set-up Mobile Phone Account Recovery in case you are locked out.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 3 of 7

Contact Information

Permanent Address

Address

City

State

ZIP Code

Mobile Phone Account Access

We strongly recommend setting up your mobile phone for account access. This option helps you gain access to your account if you are locked out, as well as allows your mobile phone to be used for two-step verification.

Mobile Phone

Confirm Mobile Phone

Yes, I agree to use my mobile phone for account access.

Alternate Phone Number (Optional)

[+ Add Alternate Phone Number](#)

Yes, I agree to use my mobile phone for account access.



By selecting this option, I agree to receive text messages on my mobile phone for two-step verification and account recovery. I have reviewed and agree to Federal Student Aid's [Terms and Conditions](#) and [privacy policy](#). Additional information is available in Federal Student Aid's privacy policy.

Message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Reply HELP for help or STOP to opt out.

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Indicate how you would like to receive future communications. Email is recommended.

→ Indicate your preferred language.

Step 4 of 7

Communication Preferences

Required Communications

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) and its federal student loan servicers will need to send you required communications and documents related to your federal student aid, such as student loan disclosures and interest statements.

I want to receive these communications:

By email *Recommended*

i By selecting this option, you agree to receive required communications by email and confirm you have reviewed and agree to FSA's [Terms and Conditions](#).

By postal mail

Informational Communications

ED and its federal student loan servicers want you to feel confident about the financial aid and student loan process. To help with this, we will sometimes send out information about programs you may be eligible for, such as grant programs, student loan forgiveness programs, income-based repayment plans, and more.

I want to receive these communications:

By email

By text message

Preferred Language

Your choice lets us know how you would like to view website content once logged in, and what to use for your communications.

Language

English



Previous

Continue

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Choose "Challenge Questions" and answers that can easily be remembered in case you forget your FSA ID username or password.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 5 of 7

Challenge Questions

Challenge questions and answers are used to retrieve your username or password if you forget them or if you need to unlock your account.

Note: Answers are not case-sensitive.

Challenge Question 1

Question

 ⓘ

Answer

 ⓘ

Challenge Question 2

Question

 ⓘ

Answer

 ⓘ

Challenge Question 3

Question

 ⓘ

Answer

 ⓘ

Challenge Question 4

Question

 ⓘ

Answer

 ⓘ

Previous

Continue

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Confirm and verify that all the information that you provided is correct.

Step 6 of 7

Confirm and Verify

Verify the information you provided for your account below. If there is an error, select "Edit" to correct the information.

Personal Information

Edit 

NAME

Joe F Blow

DATE OF BIRTH

01/01/2000

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

***-**-7897

Account Information

Edit 

USERNAME

joeblow1984

EMAIL ADDRESS

joeblow1984@gmail.com

PASSWORD

Contact Information

Edit 

PERMANENT ADDRESS

1 Harmony Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90032

MOBILE PHONE NUMBER

(949) 285-2345

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

→ Only a verified email address OR verified mobile phone number is required, but if you provided both, you **MUST** verify both.

→ After you click on the "Verify" button, a screen will pop up where you can input the code sent to your email or phone. **The code must be entered within 30 minutes.**

→ You also have the option to use an authenticator app. If you select this option, instructions will appear.

→ Click Continue once both are verified.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 7 of 7

Enable Two-Step Verification

Protect Your Account with Two-Step Verification

Whenever you sign in, we'll send a secure code to make sure it's really you. To keep your account protected, make sure your phone number and email are verified. We also suggest setting up verification using a secure authenticator app.

 **SMS Verification**
9996666666 ⚠ Not Verified

Verify

 **Email Verification**
debbie@jbay.org ⚠ Not Verified

Verify

Use an Authenticator App (Most Secure Option)

Use an authenticator app that you've downloaded from a mobile app store to view in-app secure codes—visible only to you—that can confirm your identity when you log in.

[Learn More](#)

[+ Set Up an Authenticator App](#)

Previous

Continue

Secure Code Sent

Enter the secure code we sent to your email: debbie@jbay.org.

Enter the secure code below

[Resend code](#)

Cancel

Continue

CREATE AN "FSA ID" (FEDERAL STUDENT AID IDENTIFICATION)

You will then be provided a unique backup code. You should copy this code and save it someplace safe as an alternative method of accessing your FSA ID and password if necessary.

Create an Account (FSA ID)



Step 7 of 7

Enable Two-Step Verification: Backup Code



We recommend storing your backup code in a safe place.

Your backup code is a special code that lets you access your account in the event that you cannot use any other two-step verification method.

Your Backup Code Is:

99XXX99XXX9

9

I have stored this backup code somewhere safe.

Previous

Continue



**Write down these item somewhere
safe so you don't forget:**

- FSA ID Username
- FSA ID Password
- Email Address & Password
- FSA ID Challenge Questions & Answers
- FSA Backup Code

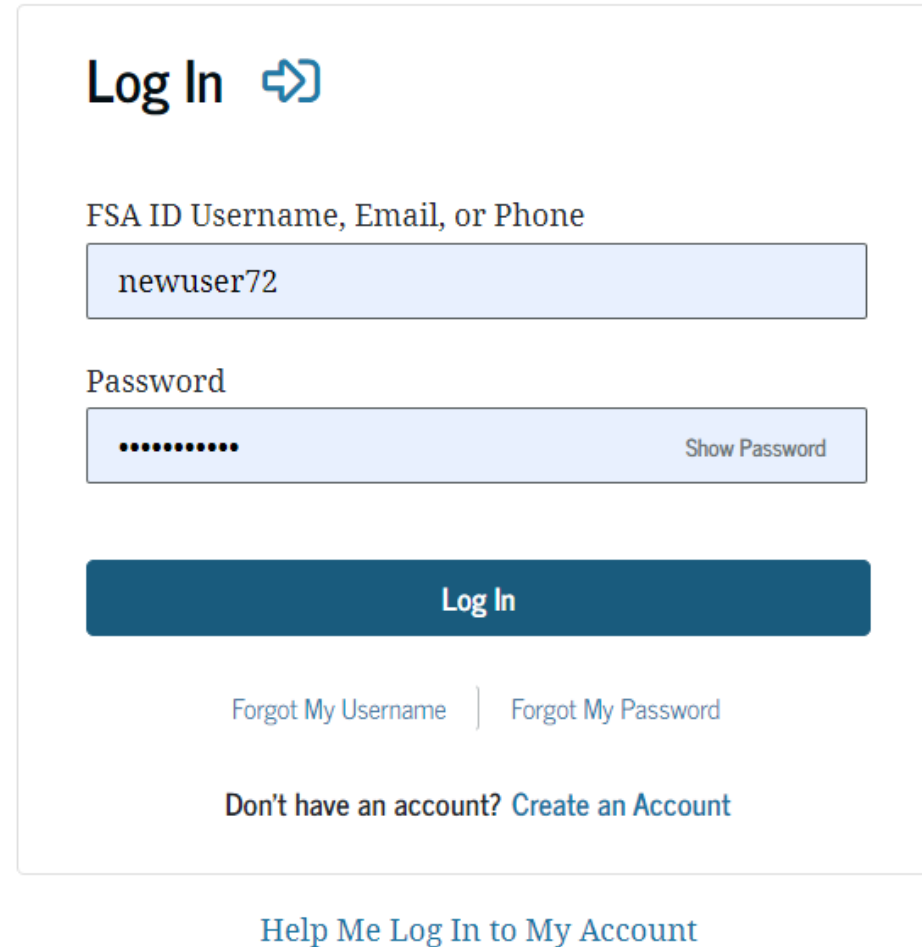
You're Now Ready to Start Your Online FAFSA

Login with your new FSA ID and begin the FAFSA

LOG-IN TO THE FAFSA

→ Once your FSA ID is created, return to the log-in page and start your application.

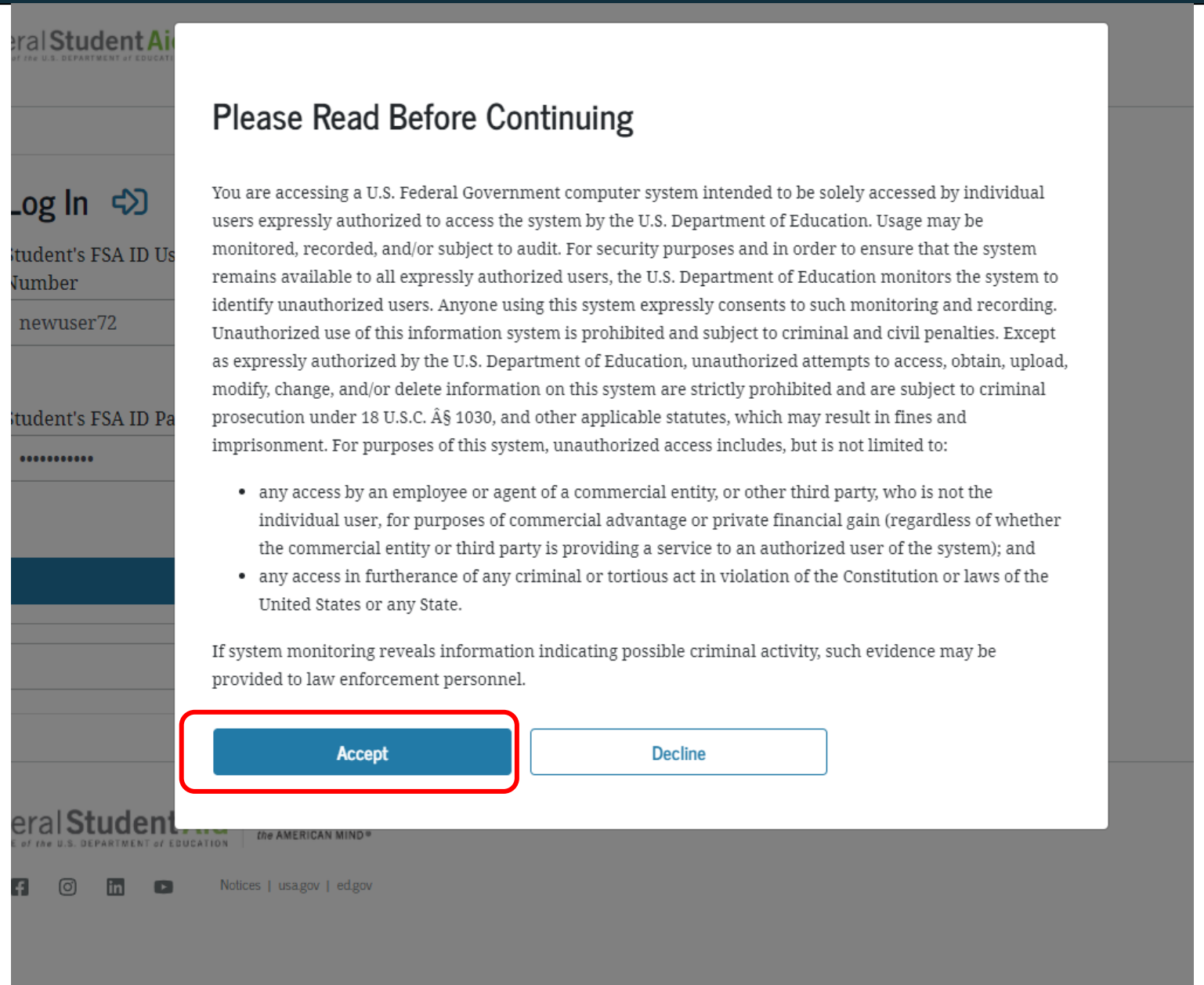
→ Enter your FSA ID Username or Verified Email Address or Mobile Number & your FSA ID Password.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA login interface. At the top, it says "Log In" with a right-pointing arrow icon. Below this is a text label "FSA ID Username, Email, or Phone" above a light blue input field containing the text "newuser72". Underneath is another text label "Password" above a light blue input field with masked characters "....." and a "Show Password" link on the right. A dark blue "Log In" button is centered below the password field. At the bottom of the form area, there are two links: "Forgot My Username" and "Forgot My Password" separated by a vertical line. Below these is the text "Don't have an account? [Create an Account](#)". At the very bottom of the page, there is a link "Help Me Log In to My Account".

READ THE DISCLAIMER

- Read the Disclaimer and, if you agree, click "Accept"



The screenshot shows a login page for the Federal Student Aid system. The page includes a 'Log In' button with a right-pointing arrow. Below it, there are input fields for 'Student's FSA ID User Number' (containing 'newuser72') and 'Student's FSA ID Password' (masked with dots). A large white disclaimer box is overlaid on the right side of the page. The disclaimer has a title 'Please Read Before Continuing' and contains a detailed warning about system monitoring and unauthorized access. At the bottom of the disclaimer, there are two buttons: 'Accept' (highlighted with a red border) and 'Decline'. The background page also shows the 'Federal Student Aid' logo and 'the AMERICAN MIND' logo at the bottom.

Please Read Before Continuing

You are accessing a U.S. Federal Government computer system intended to be solely accessed by individual users expressly authorized to access the system by the U.S. Department of Education. Usage may be monitored, recorded, and/or subject to audit. For security purposes and in order to ensure that the system remains available to all expressly authorized users, the U.S. Department of Education monitors the system to identify unauthorized users. Anyone using this system expressly consents to such monitoring and recording. Unauthorized use of this information system is prohibited and subject to criminal and civil penalties. Except as expressly authorized by the U.S. Department of Education, unauthorized attempts to access, obtain, upload, modify, change, and/or delete information on this system are strictly prohibited and are subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. Â§ 1030, and other applicable statutes, which may result in fines and imprisonment. For purposes of this system, unauthorized access includes, but is not limited to:

- any access by an employee or agent of a commercial entity, or other third party, who is not the individual user, for purposes of commercial advantage or private financial gain (regardless of whether the commercial entity or third party is providing a service to an authorized user of the system); and
- any access in furtherance of any criminal or tortious act in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States or any State.

If system monitoring reveals information indicating possible criminal activity, such evidence may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Accept Decline

SELECT THE SCHOOL YEAR YOU ARE APPLYING FOR

- Select the school year that you plan to attend college. If you select the wrong year, your financial aid will not be processed.
- If you are applying for an upcoming summer session it is recommended that you complete applications for both years. Schools have the option of using either the prior or upcoming year's financial aid for summer. Once you've picked a college, check with the financial aid office about summer financial aid.

Get Started [Help](#) [Exit FAFSA Form](#)

Welcome to TestE's application!

Fill out your FAFSA form!
To receive federal student financial aid, you need to fill out a FAFSA form every school year. Let's get started.

For which school year are you applying for financial aid?

If you are applying for a summer session or just don't know which application to complete, check with the college you are planning to attend.

Which school year should I choose?

[Start 2023–24 FAFSA Form](#) or [Start 2022–23 FAFSA Form](#)

CREATE A SAVE KEY

- Follow the directions to create a **“Save Key”** in case you need to save your application and finish it later.
- You can return within **45 days** to complete and submit the FAFSA.

Start Student's 2023–24 FAFSA® Form

Create a save key.

The save key is for temporary use for you or your parent to return and complete this specific FAFSA form.

Create a Save Key

 Show 

Reenter Save Key

 Show 

Previous

Continue



TIP

**Make sure to write down
your Save Key somewhere
safe so you don't forget:**

- ✓ FSA ID Username
- ✓ FSA ID Password
- ✓ Email Address & Password
- ✓ FSA ID Challenge Questions & Answers
- ✓ FSA Backup Code
- Save Key

REVIEW THE INTRODUCTION PAGE

- The Introduction Page includes general information about the FAFSA

→ Click **“Continue”** at the bottom of each page to go to the next page.

Introduction - 2023–24 FAFSA® Form

Let's get started!

Review the resources below to help complete your FAFSA form.

[+ Expand All](#)

How can I get help completing my FAFSA® form?



How many steps does it take to complete my FAFSA® form?



How long will it take to complete my FAFSA® form?



Can I save my FAFSA® form if I can't finish it?



What documents do I need to complete the FAFSA® form?



How do I sign the FAFSA® form?





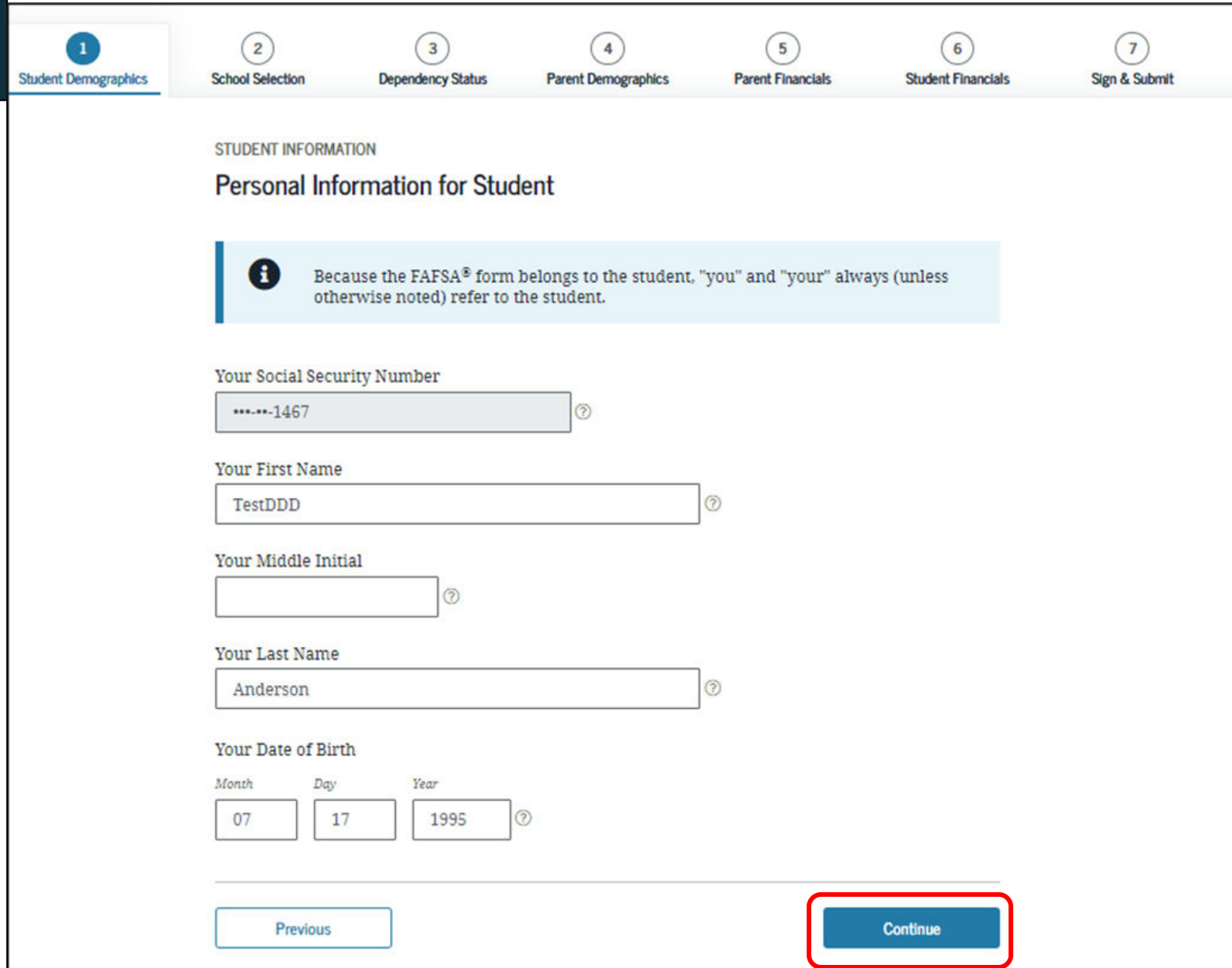
What is FAFSA web's security and privacy?



[Continue](#)

COMPLETE THE SEVEN SECTIONS OF THE FAFSA

- Complete the seven sections listed as tabs at the top of the screen. The website will take you through each section.
- Click “[Save FAFSA Form](#)” at the top of the screen to save your responses. Click “Continue” at the bottom of the page to go to the next section.
- For detailed instructions and information about each question, click the question mark icon.  Click on the green owl icon for virtual assistance. 



The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface. At the top, there are seven tabs: 1 Student Demographics (active), 2 School Selection, 3 Dependency Status, 4 Parent Demographics, 5 Parent Financials, 6 Student Financials, and 7 Sign & Submit. Below the tabs, the section is titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Personal Information for Student". A light blue information box contains a question mark icon and the text: "Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, 'you' and 'your' always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student." Below this, there are several input fields: "Your Social Security Number" (with a masked value "***--1467"), "Your First Name" (with the value "TestDDD"), "Your Middle Initial" (empty), "Your Last Name" (with the value "Anderson"), and "Your Date of Birth" (with fields for Month: "07", Day: "17", and Year: "1995"). At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Previous" and "Continue". The "Continue" button is highlighted with a red border.

SECTION 1 OF THE FAFSA:

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Social Security Number:** This will automatically populate based on the information provided when you created your FSA ID.
- **Student Name:** Make sure that your name matches exactly as it appears on your Social Security Card. This is your legal name, not a nickname.
- **Date of Birth:** Enter carefully

The screenshot displays the FAFSA Student Demographics section, titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Personal Information for Student". A navigation bar at the top shows seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (highlighted), 2. School Selection, 3. Dependency Status, 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit. An information box states: "Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, 'you' and 'your' always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student." The form fields are: "Your Social Security Number" (masked as ****-1467), "Your First Name" (TestDDD), "Your Middle Initial" (empty), "Your Last Name" (Anderson), and "Your Date of Birth" (Month: 07, Day: 17, Year: 1995). A red rounded rectangle highlights the Social Security Number, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name, and Date of Birth fields. "Previous" and "Continue" buttons are at the bottom.

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Email Address:** Double-check the email address to make sure there are no typos. The U.S. Department of Education and the colleges that you apply to for financial aid will send FAFSA reminders, status updates and financial aid application results to this email address.
 - An email address is not mandatory but is highly recommended!
 - Make sure to check your junk/spam folder in case emails get sent there.
- **Telephone number:** This field is optional.

The screenshot displays the FAFSA application interface for the 'Student Demographics' section. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (active), 2. School Selection, 3. Dependency Status, 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit. Below the progress bar, the 'STUDENT INFORMATION' section is titled 'Student Email and Phone'. It contains three input fields: 'Your Email Address' with the value '595011467@test.com', 'Reenter Your Email Address' with the value '595011467@test.com', and 'Your Telephone Number' with the value '(309) 332-3212'. Each field has a help icon (question mark in a circle) to its right. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Previous' and 'Continue'.

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Permanent Mailing Address:** This should be the same address you use on official government documents such as tax returns and voter registration cards. This is an address where a student can receive postal mail, such as a P.O. Box.
- If you don't have a permanent mailing address, ask your college's financial aid administrator for help.

The screenshot displays the FAFSA application interface for the 'Student Demographics' section. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (active), 2. School Selection, 3. Dependency Status, 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit. Below the progress bar, the 'STUDENT INFORMATION' section is titled 'Student Address'. It contains four input fields, each with a help icon (a question mark in a circle): 'Your Permanent Mailing Address (include apt. number)' with the value '100 Main St'; 'Your City (and country, if not U.S.)' with the value 'Manchester'; 'Your State' with a dropdown menu showing 'New Hampshire'; and 'Your ZIP Code' with the value '03245'. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Previous' and 'Continue'.

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- **State of Legal Residence:** If you select that you have lived in CA for at least 5 years, you may be eligible for California student financial aid (the Cal Grant).
- A separate application is not required, but you need to make sure that your high school has submitted your verified GPA and that it has been matched to your FAFSA. Create a WebGrants account to verify if your GPA has been matched to your FAFSA.
 - Visit www.csac.ca.gov/post/cal-grant-high-school-entitlement-award to see minimum GPA requirements.
 - Learn more on pages 107-111.
- **Are you a U.S. Citizen?** If you select “No, but I am an eligible noncitizen”, you will be asked to provide your Alien Registration Number (Don’t enter the “A” before the number).

1 Student Demographics 2 School Selection 3 Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials Sign

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Residency and Eligibility

Have you lived in California for at least 5 years? ?

Yes

No

Are you a U.S. citizen?

No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen. ?

Select

Yes, I am a U.S. citizen (or U.S. national).

No, but I am an eligible noncitizen.

No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen.

Continue

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Student Education- Part I:

Select the option that best fits your initial educational goal.

- If you are planning to attend a four-year college, select "1st bachelor's degree."
- If you are planning on attending a community college, even if your ultimate educational goal is to obtain a bachelor's degree, select: "associate degree (occupational or technical OR general education/transfer program)."
- If you are unsure of your plans, select "1st bachelor's degree." Do NOT select "other/undecided." However, if you decide to attend a community college, you should update your response to this question to avoid an error message and delays in your financial aid.
- Do not select "2nd bachelor's degree" unless you already have a bachelor's degree, as it may limit the grants that you receive.

CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE FOR MORE "STUDENT EDUCATION" QUESTIONS.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Education section. At the top, there are navigation tabs for sections 2 through 6: School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, and Student Financials. The current section is "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Student Education".

The first question is: "What will your high school completion status be when you begin college in the 2023-24 school year?" The dropdown menu is set to "High school diploma".

The second question is: "What college degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2023-24 school year?" The dropdown menu is open, showing the following options:

- Select
- 1st bachelor's degree
- 2nd bachelor's degree
- Associate degree (occupational or technical program)
- Associate degree (general education/transfer program)** (highlighted in blue)
- Certificate/diploma (occupational/technical/education program of less than 2 yr.)
- Certificate/diploma (occupational/technical/education program of at least 2 yr.)
- Teaching credential program (nondegree program)
- College graduate/professional degree (MBA, M.D., Ph.D., etc.)
- Other/undecided

Below the dropdown menu is the question: "Are you interested in being considered for work-study?"

FAFSA SECTION I: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Student Education- Part II:

What will your college grade level be when you begin the 2023-2024 school year?

If you took college courses while in high school, and were dually enrolled, you are still considered a first-time college student and can select the option: *“Never attended college/1st yr.”*

Interested in work study? Answer Yes! Federal Work-Study allows students with financial need to earn a portion of their financial aid award money through part-time employment on or off-campus. You can decline it later if you change your mind. Answering “Yes” also will not guarantee that you will receive a Work-Study job.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Education

What will your high school completion status be when you begin college in the 2023-24 school year?

High school diploma

What college degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2023-24 school year?

Associate degree (general education/transfer program)

Will you have your first bachelor's degree before you begin the 2023-24 school year?

Yes

No

What will your college grade level be when you begin the 2023-24 school year?

Never attended college/1st yr.

Are you interested in being considered for work-study?

Yes

No

Don't know

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Driver's License:

A driver's license is not required to complete the application but can help prevent identity theft. Driving record and parking tickets do not affect eligibility for financial aid.

The screenshot displays the FAFSA application interface for the Student Demographics section. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (active), 2. School Selection, 3. Dependency Status, 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit. Below the progress bar, the heading "STUDENT INFORMATION" is followed by "Student Driver's License". The form contains two fields: "Your Driver's License Number (if you have one)" with an empty text input box and a help icon, and "Your Driver's License State" with a dropdown menu showing "New York" and a help icon. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 1: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

You will be asked: "Are you a foster youth or were you at any time in the foster care system?"

→ Answer YES to this question, even if you were only in foster care for one day. Answering yes may give you access to more support to help you in college.

[Note: This question is not on CADAA]

Foster youth can select "Other/unknown" for "Highest School Completed by Parent."

→ Parent does not refer to a legal guardian or foster parent.

→ How you answer does not affect your eligibility for federal student aid.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Foster Care and Parent Education Completion

Are you a foster youth or were you in the foster care system at any time? ?

Yes

No

What's the highest school completed by Parent 1? ?

Other/unknown

What's the highest school completed by Parent 2? ?

Other/unknown

Previous

Continue

SECTION 2 OF THE FAFSA:

SCHOOL SELECTION

FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

High School Search (if applicable):

- If you indicated that you are still in high school or have completed your high school diploma in the "Student Demographics" section, when you get to the "School Selection" section, you will see this screen asking you to provide the name, city and state of that high school.
- Important: Use the search function to find your high school. This will help to ensure that your GPA is correctly matched when it is submitted by your high school
- You will not be prompted to answer this question if you indicated that you received a GED certificate or state-authorized high school equivalent certificate in the prior section.

Student Demographics **2** School Selection 3 Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials 7 Sign & Submit

STUDENT INFORMATION
Add Your High School

✓ Application was successfully saved.

ⓘ Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, "you" and "your" always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.

ⓘ To add your high school to your application, select it from the list of results below and then select "Continue."

State / Province / Territory
Indiana My country is not listed.

City - optional
Gary

High School Name - optional
Benjamin Banneker Achievement Ctr

Search

FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

High School Search Results:

- Select the correct high school from the list and select Continue.

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Benjamin Banneker Achievement Ctr Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Calumet New Tech High School Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Charter School of the Dunes Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Chase Alternative School Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Excel Center - Gary Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Gary Career Center Gary, IN
<input type="radio"/>	Gary Lighthouse Charter School Gary, IN

< Previous **1** 2 3 Next >

I can't find my school.

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

Confirm your high school:

- Make sure that the high school listed is correct and select continue.
- If the high school is not correct, click Previous to start a new search.

The screenshot displays the 'School Selection' step of the FAFSA application process. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (checked), 2. School Selection (active), 3. Dependency Status, 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit.

The main heading is 'STUDENT INFORMATION Confirm Your High School'. Below this, there are two instructional boxes: a green one with a checkmark icon stating 'Review the information below and then select "Continue" to add this school to your application.' and a blue one with an information icon stating 'Verify that the high school information you entered is correct, then select "Continue."'

The 'High School Information' section contains the following details:

- HIGH SCHOOL NAME: Benjamin Banneker Achievement Ctr
- CITY: Gary
- STATE: Indiana

At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Previous' (light blue) and 'Continue' (dark blue).

FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

College Search

- Search for and select up to 10 colleges that you may want to attend. Information from the FAFSA will be sent to the schools you have selected. You can also search by Federal School Code, if you know this information.
- You can update or change school selections later if your plans change or you're just not sure yet.
- You must select at least one college to continue with the FAFSA.
- You do not need to have applied for admission yet to the colleges you list.

STUDENT INFORMATION

College Search



Brian, based on the information you provided, we've determined that you may qualify for federal student aid. Continue through the application for us to determine how much aid you can receive.



Here's where you'll search for the colleges to which you'd like to send your FAFSA® information. You can add up to 10 colleges at a time to your FAFSA form. [Learn what to do if you're applying to more than 10 colleges.](#)

Make sure you add ALL colleges you're interested in, even if you haven't applied or been accepted yet.



Complete the fields below to search for a college to add to your FAFSA® form. Need help refining your search? [Try these search tips.](#)

Search by School Name, City, State

Search by Federal School Code

State

 ?

City - optional

 ?

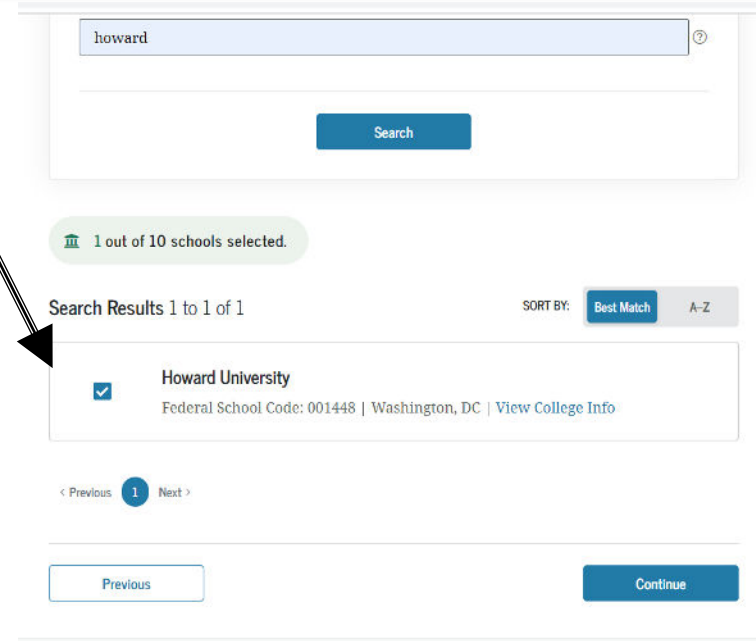
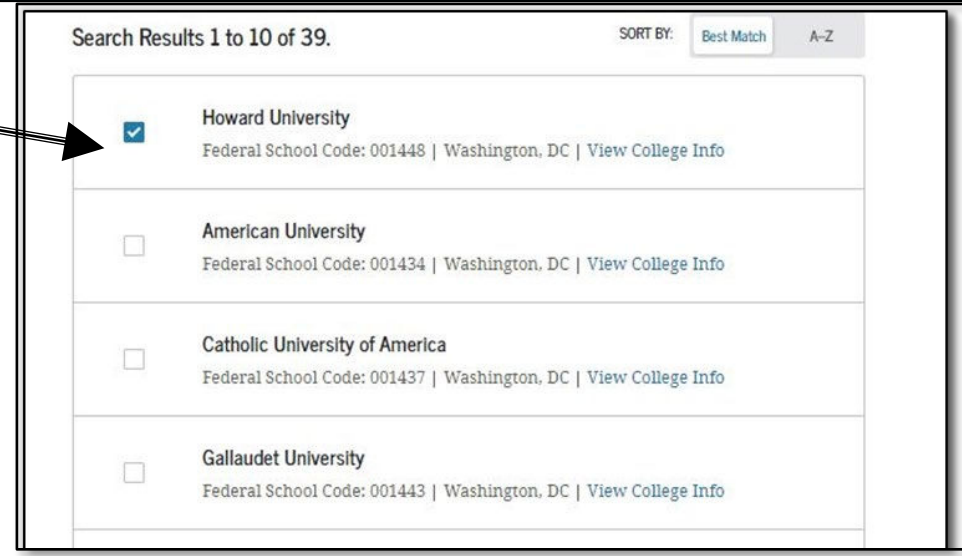
School Name - optional

 ?

Search

FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

- Select the college to add and click continue.
- Be careful when selecting your colleges. Some college names are very similar and it's easy to get them confused.
- Costs vary by college type. State colleges and universities are generally the most affordable; private vocational/trade schools can be costly. Ask for help if needed to make selections.
- Be sure to list each UC or CSU campus to which you are applying for admission separately in this section.



FAFSA SECTION 2: SCHOOL SELECTION

- You are then asked to indicate your housing plans for each campus. Most four-year universities or colleges offer on-campus housing, but only a few community colleges in California do.
- Do NOT** select “With Parent” as your housing plan if you plan to live with a foster parent, resource parent or legal guardian. **Instead, select “Off-Campus.”** This is crucial for maximizing your financial aid.
- Note that the order in which you list the colleges does not make a difference in California.
- To add additional colleges, select “Add More Schools”

STUDENT INFORMATION

Selected Colleges and Housing Info

^	Howard University	
01	Federal School Code: 001448 Washington, DC View College Info	
v	Housing Plan	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
	<input type="text" value="Select Housing Plan"/>	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Select Housing PlanOn CampusWith ParentOff Campus	
	+ Add More Schools	
	Compare All Schools	
<input type="button" value="Previous"/>		<input type="button" value="Continue"/>



TIP

You can send your FAFSA to additional schools after your FAFSA has been processed.

After the FAFSA has been processed and you have received your Student Aid Report (SAR) or SAR Notification, you can submit the FAFSA to an additional 10 colleges, if necessary, by replacing the original set of 10 colleges with a new set of up to 10 colleges. Your original set of 10 colleges will still receive their copy of your FAFSA information. Repeat this process as many times as necessary, each time waiting until you receive the SAR or SAR Notification. You can do this by visiting fafsa.gov or by calling 1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). You may need the Data Retrieval Number (DRN) from your SAR.

SECTION 3 OF THE FAFSA:

DEPENDENCY STATUS

Dependency Determination

- Students who are determined to be independent do not need to provide information about parents.
- For independent students, eligibility for financial aid is based on the student's income only (and spouse if applicable).
- Students who will be 24 years old or older as of January 1 of the year for which they are applying for aid are automatically independent and will not be asked the questions in this section. (e.g., if you plan to start school in August 2023, will you be 24 or older as of January 1, 2023)

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

Marital Status:

Your legal status is “single” if you are not married, even if you live with or have a boyfriend, girlfriend or significant other.

Married students are considered independent and will not have to fill out the Parent sections.

✓ Student Demographics ✓ School Selection **3** Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials 7 Sign & Submit

SCHOOL SELECTION

Student Marital Status

✓ Application was successfully saved.

i Because the FAFSA[®] form belongs to the student, "you" and "your" always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.

What is your marital status as of today?

Single

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

This section is asking to determine if the student has any dependents. If you have dependents, you will be considered “independent” on the FAFSA and will not have to fill out the Parent section and will automatically skip the questions on the next slide.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface for the Dependency Status section. At the top, there is a progress bar with seven steps: 1. Student Demographics (checked), 2. School Selection (checked), 3. Dependency Status (active), 4. Parent Demographics, 5. Parent Financials, 6. Student Financials, and 7. Sign & Submit. The main content area is titled 'STUDENT INFORMATION' and contains the question 'Does the student have dependents?'. Below this, there are two sections: 'Dependent Children' and 'Other Dependents'. Each section has a question and two radio button options: 'Yes' and 'No'. In both sections, the 'No' option is selected. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Previous' and 'Continue'.

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ **3** Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials 7 Sign & Submit

STUDENT INFORMATION

Does the student have dependents?

Dependent Children

Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024? ?

Yes

No

Other Dependents

Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2024? ?

Yes

No

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

Student Household Info:

This screen only appears if you indicate that you have children or are married.


The numbers for you, and if you indicated that you are married or have children, your spouse and children will automatically populate on this screen.

Your siblings, other relatives, family of origin, foster family, or others who live with you are not included in household size.

Number in College: Enter "1" for number in college unless you have a spouse or children who will also be attending college at least half-time.

✓ Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ **Dependency Status** ✓ Parent Demographics ✓ Parent Financials ✓ Student Financials 7 Sign & Submit

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Household Info

 Your household size is 3.

You: 1 Your Children: 2

Number in College

Out of the 3 people in your household (as shown above), how many will be college students between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023? **Include yourself in this number.**

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

If you are under 24, not married and do not have children you will be asked additional questions.

Current or former foster youth may qualify for “Independent Student Status” on the FAFSA if they can answer “Yes” to any part of either of these two questions.

“At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court?”

OR

“Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?”

Learn more on the next page.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Additional Dependency Questions

Answer the following questions to determine if you are required to provide information about your parents on your FAFSA® form. Select all that apply or “None of the above.” ⓘ

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training?

Are you a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?

At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?

Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?

None of the above

Previous

Continue

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

Not sure if you qualify as an independent student as a current or former foster youth? Here is some more helpful information:

- Neither legal guardians nor foster parents are considered parents when completing the FAFSA.
- Even if you were in foster care, or were a dependent or ward of the court, for just one day after you turned 13, you qualify.
- Dependent vs. Ward of the Court: The term “ward” is used to mean “dependent” of the court.
- You are a ward of the court (regardless of whether this status is determined by the county or state) if the court has assumed custody of you, even for just one day. Court-ordered documents exist that designate you as a ward of the court.
- If you were a dependent or ward of the court, but remained in the legal custody of your parents, you do not qualify for “Independent Status” as a foster youth on the FAFSA.
- Youth in Family Maintenance will not qualify unless they were in out-of-home care for at least one day after the age of 13.
- Some foster youth who are a dependent or ward of the court are under the jurisdiction of probation due to involvement with the juvenile justice system. These students are still eligible for independent status.
- If you exited foster care before the age of 13 and were either reunified with your parents or adopted, you will most likely need to provide information about your parents’ income. You can request an exemption from this requirement, however, for special circumstances. Consult with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend for more information.

How is Foster Youth Status Verified?

It should be automatically verified through a data match with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), however this doesn't always happen.



Only submit a verification letter if the data match is unsuccessful or if requested by your college or university.

HOW TO GET A FOSTER YOUTH VERIFICATION LETTER:

- **Current foster youth:** Contact your county social worker or Independent Living Program (ILP or ILSP).
- **Former foster youth:** May also contact the Office of the California Foster Care Ombudsperson: 877-846-1602.

TIP: Although a ward of the court letter may not be requested for the FAFSA, students may need it to access other benefits at their campus for foster youth such as the NextUp program or priority registration. You should request a copy, as you may need it in the future.

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

-You are determined to be an Independent Student.

-You can answer "No" to skip questions about your parents.

-Answering "No" will not prevent you from getting financial aid.

Next, you will go directly to Section 6, skipping sections 4 & 5 (Parent Demographics and Financials)

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ **3** Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials 7 Sign & Submit

STUDENT INFORMATION

Independent Student Status

You are considered an **"independent"** student. This means you are not required to answer questions about your parents.

However, you may want to answer questions about your parents if

- you are a law school or health profession student (such as a medical or nursing student), or
- your school requires parental information from all students.

Would you like to answer questions about your parents? ⓘ

Yes

No

Previous Continue



TIP

Even if you don't qualify for independent status as a foster youth, you may still qualify.

Students who do not qualify as a foster youth but who cannot obtain parental information can request an exemption from this requirement for special circumstances such as an abusive family, parental incarceration or when parents' whereabouts are unknown. Indicate when asked that you are "unable to provide information about my parents" and complete the Special Circumstances Qualifications. You must then follow up with the financial aid office to request a "dependency override."

If this applies to you, proceed to the pages 60-62.

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

If you do not qualify as an independent student based on foster youth status or any of the other options, you can request to be considered independent based on a special circumstance.

Begin by selecting "I am unable to provide information about my parents"

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface for the Dependency Status section. At the top, there is a progress bar with five steps: 1. School Selection (marked with a green checkmark), 2. Dependency Status (marked with a blue circle and '3'), 3. Parent Demographics (marked with a blue circle and '4'), 4. Parent Financials (marked with a blue circle and '5'), and 5. Student Financials (marked with a blue circle and '6'). Below the progress bar, the section is titled 'STUDENT INFORMATION' and 'Dependent Student Status'. The text explains that based on previous answers, the student is considered a 'dependent' student and must provide parental information. It offers two options: 'I will provide information about my parent(s)' and 'I am unable to provide information about my parent(s)'. The second option is selected with a blue radio button. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

✓ School Selection 3 Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials

STUDENT INFORMATION

Dependent Student Status

Based on your answers to the dependency status questions, you are considered a **"dependent"** student. This means you must provide **parental** information. Select the "I will provide information about my parent(s)" option and select "Continue" to continue to "Parent Demographics" section.

If you have a special circumstance and are unable to provide parental information, under very limited circumstances, you may be able to submit your FAFSA® form without parental information. Select the "I am unable to provide information about my parent(s)" option and select "Continue" to get additional information. ?

I will provide information about my parent(s).

I am unable to provide information about my parent(s).

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

You will then see a screen that asks you to confirm that your EFC will not be calculated and that you must follow up with the financial aid office.

Select "Continue."

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application process with a progress bar at the top. The steps are: 1. School Selection (marked with a green check), 2. Dependency Status (current step, marked with a blue circle and number 3), 3. Parent Demographics (marked with a blue circle and number 4), 4. Parent Financials (marked with a blue circle and number 5), 5. Student Financials (marked with a blue circle and number 6), and 6. Sign & Submit (marked with a blue circle and number 7). Below the progress bar, the text reads "SCHOOL SELECTION" and "Impact of Not Providing Parent Information". A paragraph states: "If you continue to complete the application without providing parent information, the following will occur:". A bulleted list follows: "• We will **not** transfer any parent information from your last year's application into this year's FAFSA® form.", "• We will **not** calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which colleges use to determine your financial aid package.", "• You may be limited in the types of federal student aid that you are eligible to receive.", and "• You must follow up with the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend in order to find out how much student aid you are eligible to receive." At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Previous" (light blue outline) and "Continue" (solid blue).

FAFSA SECTION 3: DEPENDENCY STATUS

Additional information will then be displayed that provides examples of situations that **are not** by themselves considered special circumstances such as not living with your parents, not getting financial support from them or if your parents don't want to provide their information.

Circumstances that **may** qualify include an abusive family, parental incarceration or when parents' whereabouts are unknown.

You must again confirm that you have a special circumstance and select continue.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Special Circumstances Qualifications

You may still be eligible for some type of federal student aid without providing parent information. Please read through the following options carefully.

Special Circumstances Option

You must contact the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend if you believe you have a special circumstance that should be considered in determining your eligibility for federal student aid. However, not all situations are considered a special circumstance. For example, the following situations would **not** be considered as a special circumstance on their own:

- You do not live with your parent(s).
- Your parent(s) does not provide you with financial support.
- Your parent(s) refuses to contribute to your college expenses.
- Your parent(s) doesn't claim you as a dependent on his or her income tax return.
- Your parent(s) does not want to provide his or her information on your FAFSA® form.

Unsubsidized Loan Option

If you do not meet a requirement for a special circumstance and still choose to continue your application without providing parent information, you will only be considered for an unsubsidized loan. To request consideration for an unsubsidized loan, you must contact the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend.

Choose the appropriate option below based on your circumstances. ⓘ

- I will provide information about my parent(s).
- I have a special circumstance and I am unable to provide information about my parent(s).
- I do not have a special circumstance, and I am submitting my FAFSA® form without parent information to apply for an unsubsidized loan only.

Previous

Continue

SECTION 6 OF THE FAFSA:

Student Financials

These instructions are for students with “Independent Status.” Dependent students will need to also provide parent information.

Option a). If you select “*Already Completed*” IRS Income Tax Return (pages 66–82)

Option b). If you select “*Will File*” IRS Income Tax Return (pages 83–85)

Option c). If you select “*Not Going to File*” IRS Income Tax Return (pages 86–92)



TAX TIPS

Unsure if you made enough money to file taxes?

Each year the income requirement is different. Ex. In 2021, if you were single, under 65 and your gross earned income and/or income from scholarship awards was at least \$12,550, then you are legally required to file taxes.

Gross income = total income paid to you before any deductions or taxes were taken out.

There are many good reasons to file taxes!

- ✓ Most half-time and full-time students qualify for a cash-back education credit.
- ✓ Students (18 and older) who earned at least \$1 may qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit.
- ✓ Beginning in 2022, some foster youth may qualify for an extra tax credit based on their experience in foster care.
- ✓ Parenting students, whether they have worked or not, may qualify for the child tax credit.
- ✓ Any childcare expenses a parent pays for while they attend school or work can also be deducted on their taxes

Learn more here:

jbay.org/resources/tax-prep-checklistfor-transition-age-youth-2/

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Pay careful attention to which year's income, tax and asset information you have to report in this section. FAFSA uses income and tax information from the "prior-prior" year.

Ex. The 2023-2024 FAFSA which is filled out between October 1, 2022 – March 2, 2023 will ask for 2021 tax & income information.

Any asset information is based on the date the FAFSA is filed.

You will be asked if you completed your IRS income tax return for the appropriate year. You must select one of three options:

- Already completed
- Will file
- Not going to file

The screenshot displays the FAFSA application interface for the Student Financials section. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials (highlighted), and Sign & Submit. The main heading is "STUDENT INFORMATION" followed by "Student Tax Filing Status". A green notification bar states "Application was successfully saved." Below this is an information icon with the text: "Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, 'you' and 'your' always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student." The form contains three dropdown menus: "For 2021, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?" (selected: "Already completed"), "What income tax return did you file for 2021?" (selected: "IRS Form 1040"), and "For 2021, what is your tax filing status according to your tax return?" (selected: "Single"). A "RECOMMENDED" section features the IRS logo and the "IRS Data Retrieval Tool" with the text: "Applying is faster and easier if you transfer your tax return information into this FAFSA® form with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)!" and a note: "For your protection, your tax return information will not display on the IRS website or on the FAFSA® form." At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Previous", "Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually", and "Proceed to the IRS >".

Option a).

If you select *“Already Completed”*
IRS Income Tax Return

If you filed taxes for the selected year, select this option.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

If you select “Already Completed”:

Select “Proceed to the IRS” to transfer your federal income tax return information directly into the FAFSA from the IRS using their “Data Retrieval Tool” (DRT).

- To protect security of tax information, you will not be able to see the actual information that is being transmitted.
- You can manually enter the information from your federal income tax return, however it is recommended to use the IRS DRT to prevent errors.
- If you don’t have a copy of your tax return, you can download a free transcript at irs.gov/transcript or request a federal income tax return transcript by filing IRS Form 4506-T, which can be found at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506t.pdf. If you see a reference to a \$50 fee, it means you have IRS Form 4506 instead of IRS Form 4506-T.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Financials section, specifically the Student Tax Filing Status form. The progress bar at the top indicates that the user is on step 6 of 7. The form includes a confirmation message: "Application was successfully saved." and an information message: "Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, 'you' and 'your' always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student." The form asks for the following information:

- For 2021, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return? (Dropdown menu: Already completed)
- What income tax return did you file for 2021? (Dropdown menu: IRS Form 1040)
- For 2021, what is your tax filing status according to your tax return? (Dropdown menu: Single)

Below the form, there is a recommendation for the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT). The text reads: "RECOMMENDED IRS Data Retrieval Tool. Applying is faster and easier if you transfer your tax return information into this FAFSA® form with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)!" and "For your protection, your tax return information will not display on the IRS website or on the FAFSA® form." At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Previous", "Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually", and "Proceed to the IRS >".

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

“Student Financial Information” page.

If the student clicked on “Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually” and then selects “No Thanks” for using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, then they will be asked to manually respond to questions about income and tax information from their federal income tax return.

The screenshot displays the FAFSA progress bar at the top with seven steps: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, highlighted), and Sign & Submit (7). The main content area is titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Student Eligible for IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)". It includes the text: "Applying is faster and easier with the IRS DRT!", "Based on your responses, we recommend that you transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA form. The IRS DRT allows you to link to the IRS website and securely transfer original IRS tax return information into your FAFSA form.", and "If you use the IRS DRT, you may not have to provide additional IRS documentation later to qualify for federal student aid." At the bottom, there are two buttons: "No Thanks" (highlighted with a red box) and "Proceed to the IRS". An arrow points from the text box on the left to the "No Thanks" button.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

- *Student Leaving Your FAFSA Form* will display when going to the IRS website if you select to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (which is recommended).
- It will inform you that your IRS tax information will not display, for your protection.
- Click “Proceed to the IRS” or “Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually” if you would like to enter the information manually.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA progress bar at the top with seven steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials (highlighted with a blue circle and the number 6), and Sign & Submit (highlighted with a white circle and the number 7). Below the progress bar, the heading reads "STUDENT INFORMATION" followed by "Student Leaving Your FAFSA® Form". The main text contains three paragraphs explaining that the form will delete existing income responses and replace them with IRS tax return data, that the user is being transferred to the IRS website to access their tax information, and that the saved FAFSA form will automatically open either from the IRS website or by returning to the FAFSA form from the IRS website. At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually" (light blue) and "Proceed to the IRS" (dark blue).

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Next, you will be taken to the IRS Data Retrieval Tool Site.

- A warning text appears as the IRS Data Retrieval Tool site is displayed.
- Click "OK"



FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

The screenshot shows the IRS website interface for retrieving tax information. At the top left is the IRS logo, and at the top right are links for 'Return to FAFSA', 'Help', 'Logout', and 'Español'. The main heading is 'Get My Federal Income Tax Information' with a sub-link to the Privacy Notice. Below this, it asks for 2021 Federal Income Tax Return information. The form contains several pre-filled fields: 'First Name' (DEPENDENT), 'Last Name' (DATA43), 'Social Security Number' (*** - ** - 2542), 'Date of Birth' (01/01/1999), and 'Filing Status' (Married-Filed Joint Return). There are also empty fields for 'Street Address' and 'P.O. Box'.

This screenshot shows the continuation of the FAFSA form. It includes fields for 'Apartment Number', 'Country' (set to United States), 'City, Town or Post Office', 'State / U.S. Territory' (set to Select One), and 'ZIP Code'. Below these fields is a warning: 'By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.' At the bottom, there are two buttons: a blue 'SUBMIT' button and a white 'CANCEL' button with a blue border. A note below the buttons says 'Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.'

IRS Data Retrieval Tool: The fields at the top are pre-filled based on FAFSA responses. The Social Security Number cannot be updated.

Provide the address that matches your **Federal Income Tax Return** for the requested **year** and click "Submit."

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

IRS Data Retrieval Tool, page 2:

- Check the “Transfer My Tax Information...” box and click “Transfer Now” to carry this data back into your FAFSA
- OR
- Check the “Do Not Transfer...” box and click “Do Not Transfer” to discontinue use of the IRS DRT

You are again notified on this page that the information will not display on the IRS page or on the fafsa.gov site.

The screenshot shows the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) interface for 2021 Federal Income Tax Information. The page is titled "2021 Federal Income Tax Information" and includes a sub-header "Dependent Data43". The main content area contains a notice from the IRS stating that it has located the user's income tax return and will securely transfer the information to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to populate FAFSA questions. The notice also states that the IRS will not display the user's tax information and will further encrypt any tax information transferred using the IRS DRT, therefore, ED is unable to display the user's tax information on the FAFSA form. The data retrieved from the user's tax return is limited to the items listed below as reported to the IRS:

Tax Year	Type of Return Filed	Untaxed Portion of IRA Distributions & Pensions/Annuities
Name(s)	Adjusted Gross Income	Tax-exempt Interest Income
Social Security Number	Income Earned from Work	IRA Deductions and Payments
Filing Status	Income Tax	Status of Amended Returns Received
IRS Exemptions	Education Credits	Schedule 1 Evaluation

Refer to your tax records if you have a question about the values you reported.

Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA Form ?

The tax information provided to fafsa.gov will populate the answers to the appropriate FAFSA questions. After the FAFSA questions are populated, your IRS session will end, and you will return to your FAFSA form. Check this box if you are choosing to transfer your information. **TRANSFER NOW** ?

Do Not Transfer My Tax Information and Return to the FAFSA Form ?

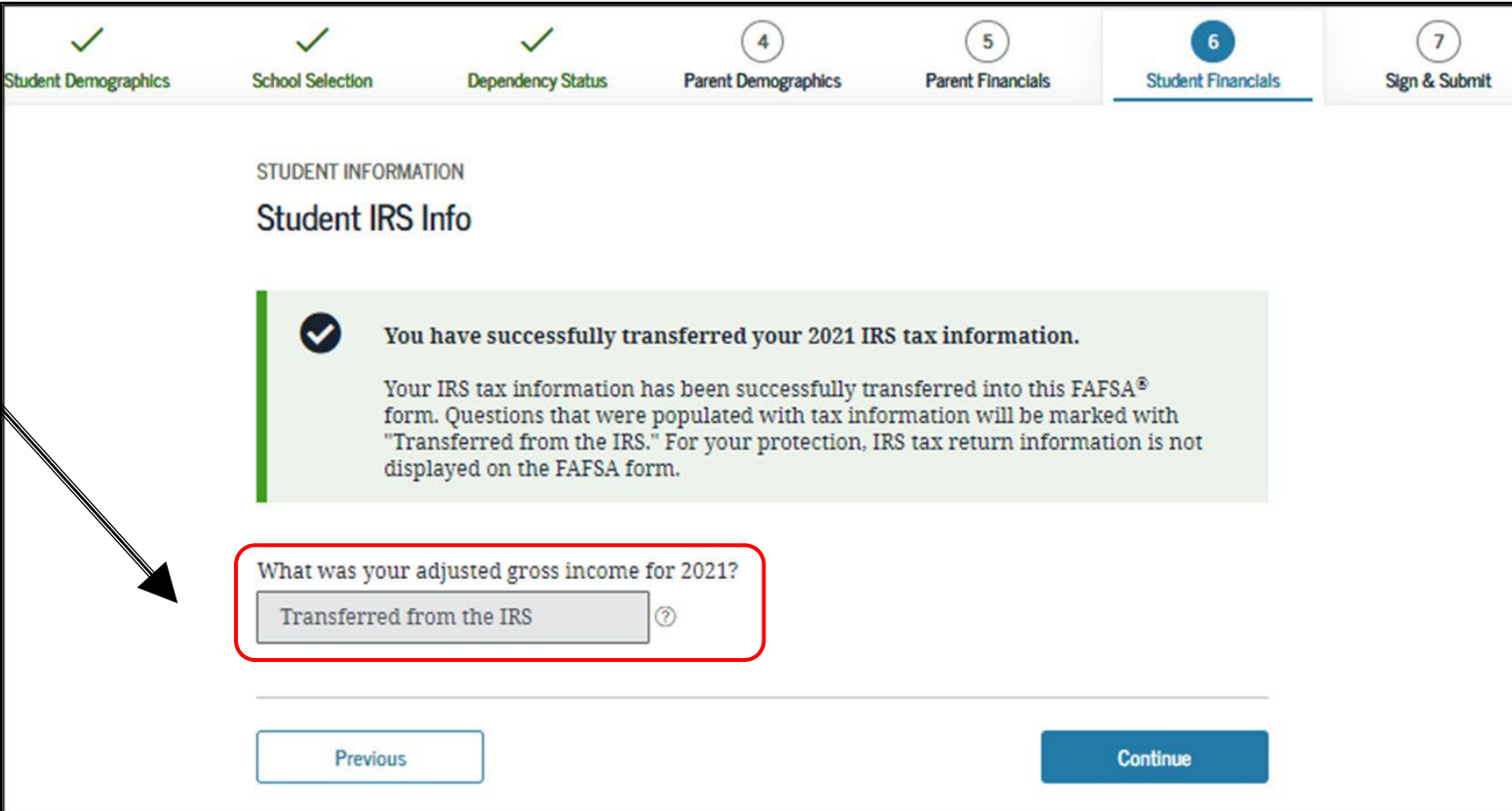
By clicking the “Do Not Transfer” button, you are choosing not to transfer your tax information electronically. Your IRS session will end, and you will return to your FAFSA form. **DO NOT TRANSFER** ?

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

“Student IRS Info”–

After the data has been transferred from the IRS DRT it will show as “Transferred from the IRS.” This data cannot be changed or viewed.

If you do not use the IRS DRT, the FAFSA tells you on what line of your tax return you can find the requested information.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Financials section. At the top, there is a progress bar with seven steps: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, highlighted), and Sign & Submit (7). Below the progress bar, the section is titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Student IRS Info". A green confirmation message states: "You have successfully transferred your 2021 IRS tax information. Your IRS tax information has been successfully transferred into this FAFSA® form. Questions that were populated with tax information will be marked with 'Transferred from the IRS.' For your protection, IRS tax return information is not displayed on the FAFSA form." Below this message is a question: "What was your adjusted gross income for 2021?". The answer field contains "Transferred from the IRS" and is circled in red. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

“Student Income from work”

If you do not use the IRS DRT, the FAFSA tells you on what line of your tax return you can find the requested information.

If asked, select No to the question “Did you file and IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1035 for 2020).” This form only applies to individuals in a legal business partnership.

The screenshot displays the FAFSA application interface for the 'Student Financials' section. At the top, a progress bar shows seven steps: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, highlighted), and Sign & Submit (7). The main content area is titled 'STUDENT INFORMATION' and 'Student Income from Work'. It asks, 'How much did you earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021?' with a text input field containing 'Transferred from the IRS' and a help icon. Below this, it asks, 'Did you file an IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065) for 2021?' with radio buttons for 'Yes' and 'No' (selected). At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Simplified Path Determination (part 1):

You may be asked if you filed a “Schedule 1” with your taxes, which is a form used to report certain types of income including unemployment benefits and self-employment income (including “gig” work such as Uber driving) as well as certain types of less common deductions. This question is used to determine if you can skip questions related to assets (the “simplified path”).

If you use the IRS DRT, this may show as “Transferred from the IRS”.

Note that if you did file a Schedule 1, you can still answer “no” if the only income type reported on the schedule 1 was unemployment benefits or other less common income types noted on the screen. If you answer no, go to page 80 (Student Additional IRS Info).

If you did file a Schedule 1, or think you may have, and select “yes” or “don’t know,” you will be asked additional questions to determine if you qualify for the simplified path. First, you will be asked if you are a dislocated worker. You can answer “yes” if you

- were laid off, are receiving unemployment benefits, and are unlikely to return to your previous occupation or
- if you lost self-employment because of economic conditions or natural disaster.

If you answer “no” or “don’t know” you will be asked the questions on the following slide.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface. At the top, there is a progress bar with six steps: School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), and Student Financials (6, highlighted). Below the progress bar, the section is titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Student Simplified Path Determination". The main question asks if the user filed a Schedule 1 with their taxes, with options for Yes, No, and Don't know. The "Don't know" option is selected. Below this, there is a sub-question: "As of today, are you a dislocated worker?" with options for Yes, No, and Don't know. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 Student Financials 6

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Simplified Path Determination

You indicated that you filed an IRS Form 1040. Did you file a Schedule 1? Select **No** if you did not file a Schedule 1 or **only filed** a Schedule 1 to report: unemployment compensation, educator expenses, IRA deduction, student loan interest deduction, or Alaska Permanent Fund dividend. [Learn more about Schedule 1.](#) ?

Yes

No

Don't know

As of today, are you a [dislocated worker](#)? ?

Yes

No

Don't know

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

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Simplified Path Determination (part 2):

If you select “no” or “Don’t know” in response to whether you are a dislocated worker, you will be asked if you receive certain government benefits.

If you do not receive any of these benefits, select “none of the above.” You will then be asked questions about your assets, such as money in checking and savings accounts, on a later screen.

Please note that SNAP is the name of the federal food assistance program, which is known locally in California as “Cal Fresh” (aka Food Stamps). Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is known in California as CalWORKs and Medicaid is known as Medi-Cal.

Yes

No

Don't know

In 2020 or 2021, did you or anyone in your household receive benefits from any of the federal benefits programs listed below?

Select all that apply or “None of the above.” If, at the time you are completing the FAFSA form, you or anyone in your household did NOT receive any of these benefits during 2020 or 2021, but do receive any of them on or before December 31, 2021, you must return to the FAFSA form and update your response.

Answering these questions will not reduce eligibility for student aid or these programs. ⓘ

Medicaid

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

[Learn about SNAP](#).

Free or Reduced Price School Lunch

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

[Learn about TANF](#).

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

[Learn about WIC](#).

None of the above

Previous

Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Additional IRS Info

If you use the IRS DRT, this will show as "Transferred from the IRS"

If you enter manually, the FAFSA will tell you what line to use from your tax return.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA progress bar at the top with steps 1-7. Step 6, 'Student Financials', is active. Below the progress bar, the page title is 'STUDENT INFORMATION Student Additional IRS Info'. The instruction reads: 'Enter the amount of your income tax for 2021.' The input field contains the text 'Transferred from the IRS' and a help icon. Below the input field are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA progress bar at the top with steps 1-7. Step 6, 'Student Financials', is active. Below the progress bar, the page title is 'STUDENT INFORMATION Student Additional IRS Info'. The instruction reads: 'Enter the amount of your income tax for 2021. This is the total amount of IRS Form 1040—line 22 minus Schedule 2—line 2. If negative, enter a zero here.' The input field is split into a dollar sign '\$', a text box, and a decimal field with '.00' and a help icon. Below the input field are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

“Student Questions for Tax Filers Only”

If you indicated that you filed taxes (regardless of whether you import data from the IRS or enter manually) you will be asked about various types of income that may have been included in the income reported on your tax return.

If you received college grants, scholarships or any payments from Americorps during the year for which you are reporting income that were included in the income reported on your taxes, you must enter the amount here to ensure that these do not count against your financial aid eligibility.

If you use the IRS DRT, some of these questions will show as “Transferred from the IRS.”

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application interface for the 'Student Financials' section. At the top, a progress bar indicates the following steps: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, highlighted), and Sign & Submit (7). The main heading is 'STUDENT INFORMATION' followed by 'Student Questions for Tax Filers Only'. A question asks: 'Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply.' The items listed are: 1. 'Combat pay or special combat pay. This should be zero for enlisted persons and warrant officers (including commissioned warrant officers) because combat pay is entirely nontaxable. Only enter taxable combat pay included in your (and, if married, your spouse's) adjusted gross income.' The input field shows '\$ 0 .00'. 2. 'Student college grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.' The input field shows '\$ 0 .00'. 3. 'Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from IRS.' The input field is 'Transferred from the IRS'. 4. 'Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions from IRS form.' The input field is 'Transferred from the IRS'. 5. 'IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh, and other qualified plans from IRS form.' The input field is 'Transferred from the IRS'. 6. 'Tax exempt interest income from IRS form.' The input field is 'Transferred from the IRS'. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Additional Financial Info

A **Cooperative Education Program** is a college program that allows a student to apply their classroom knowledge to a paid work experience in a field related to their academic or career goals.

If you received **federal work-study**, you must enter the information twice in the FAFSA so that it is subtracted when determining your total income. First, include the amount in the total provided when asked "How much did you earn from working?"

Also provide the amount in Additional Financial Info Section that says, "Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships"

Progress bar: School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6)

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Additional Financial Info

Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply.

Child support you paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your household.
\$ 0 .00 ?

Earnings from work under a Cooperative Education Program offered by a college.
\$ 0 .00 ?

Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.
\$ 0 .00 ?

Buttons: Previous, Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

You DO NOT have to report the following information as income earned from working, or as “Untaxed Income”:

- Economic Impact Payments, or stimulus checks, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Emergency financial aid grants from the government in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. If you aren’t sure, talk to your financial aid office for assistance.
- Extended Foster Care (AB 12) benefits—including SILP payments or payment from a THP-NMD program (even if your SILP payment is sent directly to you). This also includes the infant supplement.
- Welfare (CalWORKs) payments
- Untaxed Social Security benefits
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) – do not confuse with Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

There are other less common types of untaxed income that don’t need to be reported as well. Learn more within the FAFSA.

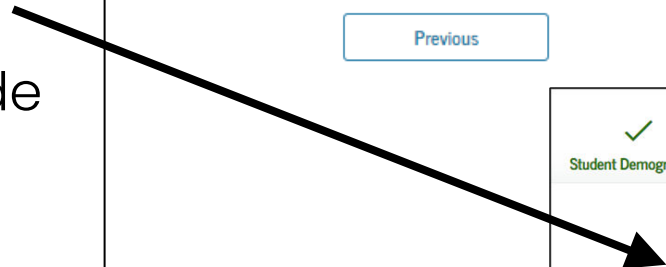
The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Financials section, specifically the "Student Untaxed Income" page. The navigation bar at the top includes: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, active), and Sign & Submit (7). The page title is "STUDENT INFORMATION Student Untaxed Income". The question asks: "Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply." There are six input fields, each with a dollar sign, a numeric field, and a ".00" field, followed by a question mark icon. The first five items are: "Child support received for all children. Do not include foster care or adoption payments.", "Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy, and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Do not include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.", "Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 Form in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. Don't include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).", "Veterans noneducation benefits such as Disability; Death Pension; or Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC); and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.", and "Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc.". The sixth item is "Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement." At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Assets:

If asked, click "Yes" to skip questions about your assets. It is not required.

If your income is over a certain threshold, you will instead be asked to provide information about your current assets such as savings, checking accounts or investments.



Progress bar: Student Demographics ✓, School Selection ✓, Dependency Status ✓, Parent Demographics ④, Parent Financials ⑤, Student Financials ⑥, Sign & Submit ⑦

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Assets

Do you want to skip questions about your assets? ?

Yes
 No

Previous Continue

Progress bar: Student Demographics ✓, School Selection ✓, Dependency Status ✓, Parent Demographics ✓, Parent Financials ✓, Student Financials ✓, Sign & Submit ⑦

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Assets

As of today, what is your total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts?
\$.00 ?

As of today, what is the net worth of your investments, including real estate (not your home)?
\$.00 ?

As of today, what is the net worth of your current businesses and/or investment farms? **Don't include** a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees.
\$.00 ?

Previous Continue



TIP

What if your income has changed since 2021?

If your income has decreased since 2021, for example, you lost a job or had your hours significantly reduced, contact the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend. They can recalculate your financial aid award to reflect your current income.

Option b).

If you select *“Will File”* IRS Income Tax Return

Very few people will need to select this option. If you were required to file taxes, but missed the deadline, select this option.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

If you select "Will file" a tax return, indicate what your filing status will be when you do file.

A message will appear to confirm that you have missed the deadline to file taxes, but still plan to file an income tax return.

Click "OK" if this is true.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Tax Filing Status

⚠ Attention!
You must provide financial information from your **2021 tax return** on the following pages.

i Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, "you" and "your" always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.

For 2021, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?

Will file ?


! You indicated that the student will file taxes. If the student has missed the 2021 tax filing deadline that was extended due to Covid-19, but still plans to file a 2021 income tax return with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), select "OK." Otherwise, change your answer. OK

What income tax return will you file for 2021?

IRS Form 1040 ?

For 2021, what will be your tax filing status according to your tax return?

Single ?



IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Based on your responses, you are not eligible to transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA® form.

Select "Continue."

Previous
Continue



Remember: If a student selects "Will File" they must update their FAFSA once they have filed their federal income tax return.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student IRS Info

Either use the prior year's taxes if the information is similar to provide estimates or click "Income Estimator" for assistance estimating the adjusted gross income.

Gross income = total income paid to you before any deductions or taxes were taken out.

*You will then be asked the same questions as tax filers based on your estimations. To view the additional financial information screens that follow, see pages 74-82.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application progress bar at the top with seven steps: School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials (highlighted), and Sign & Submit. Below the progress bar, the 'STUDENT INFORMATION' section is titled 'Student IRS Info'. A light blue information box contains the following text: 'You indicated you "Will file" a 2021 tax return. If your 2021 income is similar to your 2020 income, use your 2020 tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income. If your income is not similar, select "Calculate with Income Estimator" for assistance estimating your adjusted gross income, and answer the remaining questions about your income to the best of your ability. Once you file your tax return, you **must** correct your FAFSA® form by changing 1) your filing status from "Will file" to "Already completed," and 2) the estimated answers to the final amounts on your 2021 tax return. At that time, you may be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to transfer your tax return information into the FAFSA form.' Below this box, the question 'What was your adjusted gross income for 2021?' is displayed, with a note that the amount is found on IRS Form 1040—line 11. A text input field shows '\$' on the left, a numeric field with '.00' on the right, and a help icon. Below the input field is a blue link 'Calculate with Income Estimator'. At the bottom of the screen are two buttons: 'Previous' and 'Continue'.

✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials **6 Student Financials** 7 Sign & Submit

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student IRS Info

i You indicated you "Will file" a 2021 tax return.

If your 2021 income is similar to your 2020 income, use your 2020 tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income. If your income is not similar, select "Calculate with Income Estimator" for assistance estimating your adjusted gross income, and answer the remaining questions about your income to the best of your ability.

Once you file your tax return, you **must** correct your FAFSA® form by changing 1) your filing status from "Will file" to "Already completed," and 2) the estimated answers to the final amounts on your 2021 tax return. At that time, you may be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to transfer your tax return information into the FAFSA form.

What was your adjusted gross income for 2021?
This amount is found on IRS Form 1040—line 11.

\$.00 ?

[Calculate with Income Estimator](#)

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

Option c).

If you select *“Not Going to File”*

IRS Income Tax Return

If you did not have to file taxes, select this option. You will still be asked questions about any income you have earned or received.

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Select “Not going to file” if you did not work or did not make enough money that requires you to file taxes for the requested year.

You may be required to submit a Verification of Non-Filing Letter to the IRS to verify that you did not need to file taxes.

For more information about this form visit: www.jbay.org/resources/irs-vnf

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Tax Filing Status

i Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, “you” and “your” always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.

For 2021, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?

Not going to file


IRS Data Retrieval Tool
Based on your responses, you are not eligible to transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA® form.
Select "Continue."

Previous

Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Income from Work

You will be asked to report how much money you made from **working**. Include the information from your W-2 forms (box numbers 1 +8).

If you did not work, enter zero. This question can't be left blank.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application progress bar at the top with seven steps: Student Demographics (checked), School Selection (checked), Dependency Status (checked), Parent Demographics (4), Parent Financials (5), Student Financials (6, highlighted), and Sign & Submit (7). Below the progress bar, the section is titled 'STUDENT INFORMATION' and 'Student Income from Work'. The question asks: 'How much did you earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021?'. The input field shows '\$' on the left, a text box containing '0', and '.00' on the right with a help icon. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 **Student Financials 6** Sign & Submit 7

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Income from Work

How much did you earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2021?

\$.00 ?

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Additional Financial Info

A **Cooperative Education Program** is a college program that allows a student to apply their classroom knowledge to a paid work experience in a field related to their academic or career goals.

If you received **federal work-study**, you must enter the information twice in the FAFSA so that it is subtracted when determining your total income. First, include the amount in the total provided when asked "How much did you earn from working?"

Also provide the amount in Additional Financial Info Section that says, "Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships."

✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status 4 Parent Demographics 5 Parent Financials 6 Student Financials

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Additional Financial Info

Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply.

Child support you **paid** because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your household.

\$.00 ?

Earnings from work under a Cooperative Education Program offered by a college.

\$ 0 .00 ?

Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.

\$ 0 .00 ?

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Untaxed Income- Part 1

You DO NOT have to report the following information as income earned from working, or as “Untaxed Income”:

- Economic Impact Payments, or stimulus checks, due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Emergency financial aid grants from the government in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. If you aren't sure, talk to your financial aid office for assistance.
- Extended Foster Care (AB 12) benefits—including SILP payments or payment from a THP-NMD program (even if your SILP payment is sent directly to you). This also includes the infant supplement.
- Welfare (CalWORKs) payments
- Untaxed Social Security benefits
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) - do not confuse with Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

There are other less common types of untaxed income that don't need to be reported as well. Learn more within the FAFSA.

7

School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 Student Financials 7 Sign & Sub

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Untaxed Income

Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply.

Child support **received** for all children. Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

\$.00 ?

Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy, and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Do not include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.

\$.00 ?

Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 Form in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. **Don't include** amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).

\$.00 ?

Veterans noneducation benefits such as Disability; Death Pension; or Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC); and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.

\$.00 ?

Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc.

\$.00 ?

Money received or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement.

\$.00 ?

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

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Untaxed Income- Part 2

You DO have to report Unemployment Benefits under untaxed income.

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 Student Financials ✓ Sign & Submit 7

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Untaxed Income

Did you have any of the following items in 2021? Enter amounts for all that apply.

Child support **received** for all children. Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

\$.00 ?

Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy, and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Do not include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.

\$.00 ?

Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 Form in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. **Don't include** amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).

\$.00 ?

Veterans noneducation benefits such as Disability; Death Pension; or Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC); and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.

\$.00 ?

Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc.

\$.00 ?

Money received or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement.

\$.00 ?

Previous Continue

FAFSA SECTION 6: STUDENT FINANCIALS

Student Assets:

If asked, click “Yes” to skip questions about your assets. It is not required.

If your income is over a certain threshold, you will instead be asked to provide information about your assets such as savings or investment accounts.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application progress bar at the top with seven steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials (highlighted), and Sign & Submit. Below the progress bar, the section is titled "STUDENT INFORMATION" and "Student Assets". The question is "Do you want to skip questions about your assets?" with a help icon. The "Yes" radio button is selected. At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 **Student Financials 6** Sign & Submit 7

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Assets

Do you want to skip questions about your assets? ⓘ

Yes
 No

Previous Continue

SECTION 7 OF THE FAFSA:
SIGN & SUBMIT

The final section of the FAFSA!

FAFSA SECTION 7: SIGN & SUBMIT

- Review and check all the information from the application. It is a summary of the information you provided on the FAFSA.
- You can print a copy for your records by clicking **"Print This Page"** at the bottom.
- If everything is ok, click continue at the bottom. Your FAFSA still needs to be signed and submitted.

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics 4 Parent Financials 5 Student Financials ✓ Sign & Submit 7

SIGN AND SUBMIT

FAFSA[®] Summary

i You're not done yet!
You still need to submit your FAFSA[®] form. After you print this page, select "Continue" to sign your FAFSA form.

FAFSA Summary: 2023-24 Student ID: ****-3012 LA

[COLLAPSE ALL](#) ^

SECTION 1 Student Demographics

Student's Social Security Number (question 8)	****-3012
Student's First Name (question 2), Student's Middle Initial (question 3)	Brian
Student's Last Name (question 1)	Lastname
Student's Date of Birth (question 9)	11/02/2004

FAFSA SECTION 7: SIGN & SUBMIT

Answer a few demographic questions before you sign and submit and then click "Continue." These questions do not affect your eligibility for aid

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application progress bar with seven steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials, and Sign & Submit. The Sign & Submit step is highlighted with a blue circle containing the number 7. Below the progress bar, the text reads "SIGN & SUBMIT" and "Before you sign and submit, please answer a few questions about the student." A light blue information box contains an information icon and the text: "These questions don't affect aid eligibility. Your answers to questions in this survey will not affect your eligibility for federal student aid and will not be used in any aid calculations." Below this, the question "What is your gender?" is displayed with four radio button options: Male, Female (selected), Nonbinary, and Decline to answer. Below that, the question "Are you transgender?" is displayed with three radio button options: Yes, No (selected), and Decline to answer.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application questions for ethnicity and race. The question "What is your ethnicity? Choose all that apply." has six checkbox options: Not Hispanic nor Latino origin, Cuban descent (checked), Mexican, Mexican-American, or Chicano descent (checked), Puerto Rican descent, Other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin (checked), and Decline to answer. Below this, the question "What is your race? Choose all that apply." has twelve checkbox options: White, Black or African American, Asian, Chinese, Filipino (checked), Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, Other Asian origin, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Decline to answer. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: "Previous" and "Continue".

FAFSA SECTION 7: SIGN & SUBMIT

Agreement of Terms– Read and check the box indicating agreement with the signing statement and click “Sign and Submit FAFSA Form”.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA application progress bar at the top with steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, Student Financials, and Sign & Submit (highlighted with a blue circle and number 7). Below the progress bar, the page title is "SIGN & SUBMIT" and the sub-header is "Read Before Proceeding". There are two notification boxes: a green one with a checkmark stating "Application was successfully saved." and a blue one with an information icon stating "Carefully read and acknowledge whether you agree to our terms outlined below by selecting the checkbox at the bottom of this page. Select 'Sign and Submit FAFSA Form.'". Below these is a text block: "By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID (username and password) and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you". This is followed by a list of five terms:

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

Below the list is another text block: "By signing this application electronically using your username and password, and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, 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". This is followed by a list of two items:

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

This screenshot shows a close-up of the agreement terms. The text reads: "You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies." Below this is another paragraph: "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 purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both." Below the text is a checkbox that is checked, with the text "I, TestYYY Jackson, agree to the terms outlined above." At the bottom of the page, there are two buttons: "Previous" and "Sign and Submit FAFSA Form" (with a document icon).

FAFSA SECTION 7: SIGN & SUBMIT

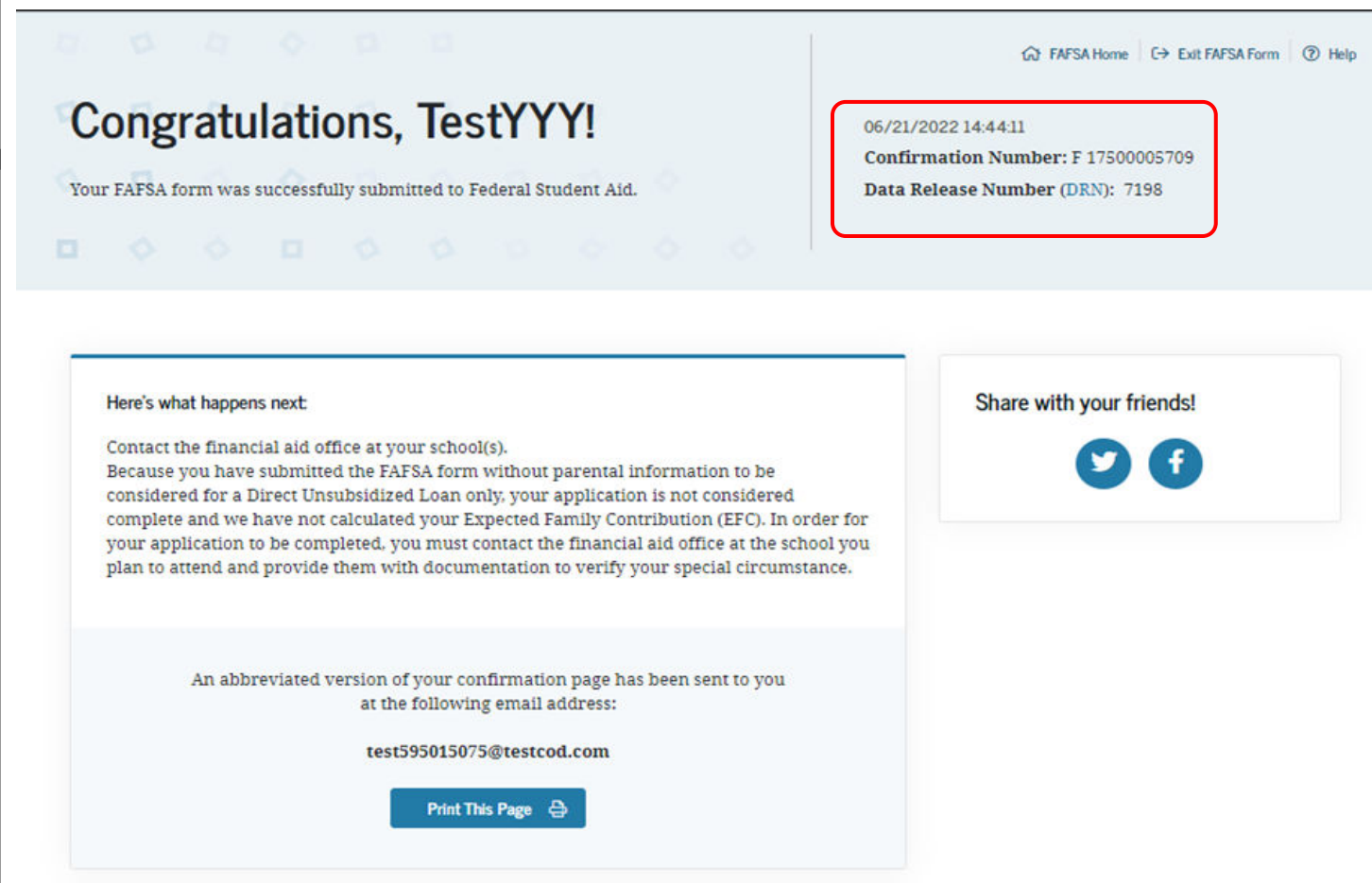
Signature Options

- If you logged into the FAFSA with an FSA ID, this page will not show and you will be directed to the “Congratulations” page [next page].
- If you logged into the application without an FSA ID, you will be shown this signature option page. It is recommended that you create an FSA ID to sign your FAFSA form electronically and then click “Sign This FAFSA Form.”

The screenshot displays the FAFSA 'SIGN & SUBMIT' page. At the top, a progress bar shows six completed steps: Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, Parent Financials, and Student Financials, each with a green checkmark. The final step, 'Sign & Submit', is highlighted with a blue circle containing the number 7. Below the progress bar, the page title is 'SIGN & SUBMIT Signature Options'. The student's name is identified as 'Anderson'. Personal information is listed: Date of Birth (08/09/2002) and Social Security Number (.....1483). The main section is titled 'Enter the student's FSA ID' and includes the instruction 'Do not enter the FSA ID if you are not the student.' There are two input fields: 'Student's FSA ID Username, Email Address, or Mobile Number' and 'Student's FSA ID Password'. The first field has a 'Forgot Username' link and a 'Create an FSA ID' link. The second field has a 'Show' button and a 'Forgot Password' link. A blue button labeled 'Sign This FAFSA Form' with a document icon is positioned below the password field. At the bottom of the page, there are two links: 'Return to Signature Status' and 'Other Options to Sign and Submit'.

FAFSA SECTION 7: SIGN & SUBMIT

- This is your Confirmation Page to show that your FAFSA is submitted! It provides your confirmation number and Data Release Number (DRN), should there be any issues.
- If possible, print and save a copy of this page for your records.
- A copy will be sent via email.
- You'll be notified in 3-5 days that it was processed.
- If you need to make any changes, you must wait until you receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). This may take a few days to a few weeks after filing your FAFSA.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA Confirmation Page. At the top right, there are navigation links: "FAFSA Home", "Exit FAFSA Form", and "Help". The main heading is "Congratulations, TestYYY!". Below it, a message states: "Your FAFSA form was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid." A red-bordered box highlights the submission details: "06/21/2022 14:44:11", "Confirmation Number: F 17500005709", and "Data Release Number (DRN): 7198".

Here's what happens next:



Contact the financial aid office at your school(s). Because you have submitted the FAFSA form without parental information to be considered for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan only, your application is not considered complete and we have not calculated your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). In order for your application to be completed, you must contact the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend and provide them with documentation to verify your special circumstance.

An abbreviated version of your confirmation page has been sent to you at the following email address:

test595015075@testcod.com

[Print This Page](#)

Share with your friends!

School(s) On Your FAFSA Form			
School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate
Marymount University	65%	72%	26%

Free Help Completing the FAFSA

- **Live Help built into FAFSA on the Web**
- **U.S. Department of Education's toll-free hotline:**
 - **1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)**
- **For more information or to contact the U.S. Department of Education by email visit:**
www.studentaid.gov/help-center/contact

AFTER THE FAFSA

Filling out the FAFSA is just the first step.

Once your FAFSA is processed successfully (within a few days), it will be indicated when you log back into the FAFSA.

You can make a correction by choosing "Edit FAFSA Form."

Choosing "View Student Aid Report" will allow you to view your SAR. Learn more about the SAR on the next page.

The screenshot shows the 'My FAFSA' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'My FAFSA' and links for 'Help' and 'Exit FAFSA Fo'. Below this is the 'STUDENT INFORMATION' section with a welcome message: 'Welcome to INDEPENDENT TESTER's application!'. There are two tabs for the academic years: '2023-24' (active) and '2022-23'. A red box highlights the 'Current Application Status' section, which shows a green checkmark and the text 'Processed Successfully'. Below this, a message reads: 'Congratulations, your FAFSA form was successfully processed.' The 'What Happens Next' section contains a bulleted list of instructions regarding school communication and financial aid. At the bottom, it states: 'Original Application: Submitted on 10/01/2022; Processed on 10/18/2022'.

This section is titled 'You may take the following additional actions:'. It contains two rows of action cards. The first row is for 'Edit FAFSA Form', which includes a pencil icon, the text 'Change incorrect information on a previous FAFSA submission.', and a button labeled 'Edit FAFSA Form'. The second row is for 'View Student Aid Report', which includes a document with a dollar sign icon, the text 'View your EFC, FAFSA answers, and financial aid history.', and a button labeled 'View Student Aid Report'.

Student Aid Report

If you click “View Student Aid Report” (SAR), you’ll see this page.

The SAR summarizes the information provided on the FAFSA. It includes the Data Release Number (DRN) and Expected Family Contribution (EFC). In this example, the EFC is 0 which means the student will likely qualify for maximum aid.

The SAR is not your award letter, but an estimate of what you MAY be eligible for.

It may take a few days or weeks to receive your SAR.

It will include info if you’ve been selected for additional verification and how many years you have received federal aid towards the 6-year cap.

At the top of the page, students can “Print SAR”

2023–24 Student Aid Report [Print SAR](#) [Help](#) [Exit FAFSA Form](#)

Processing Results →

TRANSACTION 01
Processing Results

Application Receipt Date:	Processed Date:	Data Release Number (DRN)
10/01/2022	11/03/2022	3966

[Learn about federal tax benefits for education, including the American Opportunity tax credit.](#)

Expected Family Contribution: 0

Based on the information we have on record for you, your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is 0. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid. Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work-study funds, and possible funding from your state and school.

Based on your EFC of 0, you may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$6,895 for the 2023–24 school year provided you have not met or exceeded the lifetime limit established for the Federal Pell Grant program.

[Back to FAFSA Home](#)

Step #2: APPLY FOR THE CHAFEE GRANT

This is a separate application than the FAFSA

Chafee Grant Overview & Eligibility:

May receive up to **\$5,000 per year depending on financial need** for up to **5 years** (whether or not consecutive) until the **age of 26**

Can be used at public or private qualified colleges, universities or career and technical schools (CTE) in California or out of state

Must be a current or former foster youth who was a dependent or ward of the court living in an out-of-home foster care placement at least one day between the ages of 16-18 or placed in out-of-home care by a tribe or tribal organization between the ages of 16-18.

Must be enrolled at least half-time (6 units) in college, have financial need and have not reached your 26th birthday as of July 1st of the award year

Chafee Grant Application Tips

- A separate application is required for **first time** applicants only in addition to the FAFSA. While the FAFSA must be filled out every year, the Chafee must only be filled out once.
- Go to chafee.csac.ca.gov to and click “Start Chafee Application.”
- Apply as soon as possible, ideally right after you complete your FAFSA!
- In the application, “Planned School of Attendance” refers to *one* college the student plans to attend. If you don’t know yet, you can select one and update it later in WebGrants. If your school isn’t listed, you can contact CSAC: 1-888-CAGRANT (1-888-224-7268), option 3.
- Students can update their Chafee grant applications and monitor award status on WebGrants 4 Students at mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Chafee Grant website for Foster Youth. The URL is <https://chafee.csac.ca.gov>. The navigation menu includes HOME, WEB GRANTS, CAL GRANTS, CASH FOR COLLEGE, CAL DREAM ACT, and FAFSA. The main heading is "CALIFORNIA CHAFEE GRANT FOR FOSTER YOUTH" with a sub-heading "Free Money for Foster Youth for College or Career Training". Below this is a navigation bar with links: "What is Chafee?", "Chafee Eligibility", "Application Process", "Awarding Process", and "More Information". The "What is Chafee?" link is highlighted. The main text explains that eligible students can receive up to \$5,000 per year for education expenses. Below this are three columns: "IMPORTANT DATE" with a calendar icon and a "Start Chafee Application" button; "REQUIREMENTS" with a checklist icon and a list of forms to submit; and "INFORMATION CHANGE" with a document icon and links for name changes and school address updates.

HOME WEB GRANTS CAL GRANTS CASH FOR COLLEGE CAL DREAM ACT FAFSA

CALIFORNIA CHAFEE GRANT FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Free Money for Foster Youth for College or Career Training

What is Chafee? Chafee Eligibility Application Process Awarding Process More Information

If you are or were in foster care for at least one day, between the ages of 16 and 18 as a dependent or ward of the court and have financial need, you may qualify for up to \$5,000 a year for career and technical training or college. You don't have to pay this money back. You may also be able to use your grant to help pay for child care, transportation and rent while you're in school. You can use your Chafee Grant at any eligible California college or university or career or technical school, as well as schools in other states.

IMPORTANT DATE

Online Chafee Application, FAFSA, and CA Dream Act Application opens in **October**

Start Chafee Application

REQUIREMENTS

The following forms **must be submitted**:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid or CA Dream Act Application
- Chafee Grant Application (for first time applicants only)

INFORMATION CHANGE

Name Change?
If so, complete the [Chafee Grant Update/Change Form](#)

New school, mailing address or phone number change?
[Manage your WebGrants for Students account 24/7](#)

Chafee Grant Priority Awarding Hierarchy

It is common for students to be wait-listed for an entire school year before they are awarded. Be sure to budget accordingly.

Priority Awarding Hierarchy:

1. Paid renewal students who have not reached their 26th birthday as of July 1st of the award year (Students who have received a Chafee payment).
2. New and non-paid* renewal students who will be 25 years old as of July 1st of the award year.
3. New and non-paid renewal students who have dependents.
4. New and non-paid renewal students who have an unmet need of \$5,000 or more.
5. New and non-paid renewal students who have an unmet need of less than \$5,000.

* non-paid = have not received a Chafee payment

Step #3: CREATE A WEBGRANTS 4 STUDENTS ACCOUNT

Create this to view the status of your FAFSA/CADAA and Chafee Grant

WebGrants 4 Students: mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov

- Students will need to wait to create a WebGrants account until their FAFSA or CADAA is processed. It can take 1-2 weeks for the FAFSA to process and link to WebGrants.
- If there are any issues, they should contact the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC):
 - (888) 224-7268 or 1-800-735-2929 (TTY)
 - studentsupport@csac.ca.gov



California Student Aid Commission

Contact Us

For Students ▾ For Schools & Counselors ▾ Outreach ▾ Reports & Publications ▾ News & Events ▾ About ▾ 

WebGrants 4 Students

Login

Create an Account

 Please check the status of your 2019-20 Cal Grant renewal award on or after **July 8, 2019**. Once your renewal award is processed, you may request a school change through WGS if your school changed. The 2019-20 middle class scholarship awards will be processed in **August 2019**.

INFORMATION

- How to Apply for a Cal Grant Award
- Understanding My Cal Grant
- Ineligibility Fact Sheet
- Cal Grant / Chafee Updates
- Important Deadlines
- Security Information
- FAQ

FORMS/APPLICATIONS

- Cal Grant Participant Forms and Applications
- GPA Verification Form
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- CA Dream Act Application (CADAA)
- Chafee Application

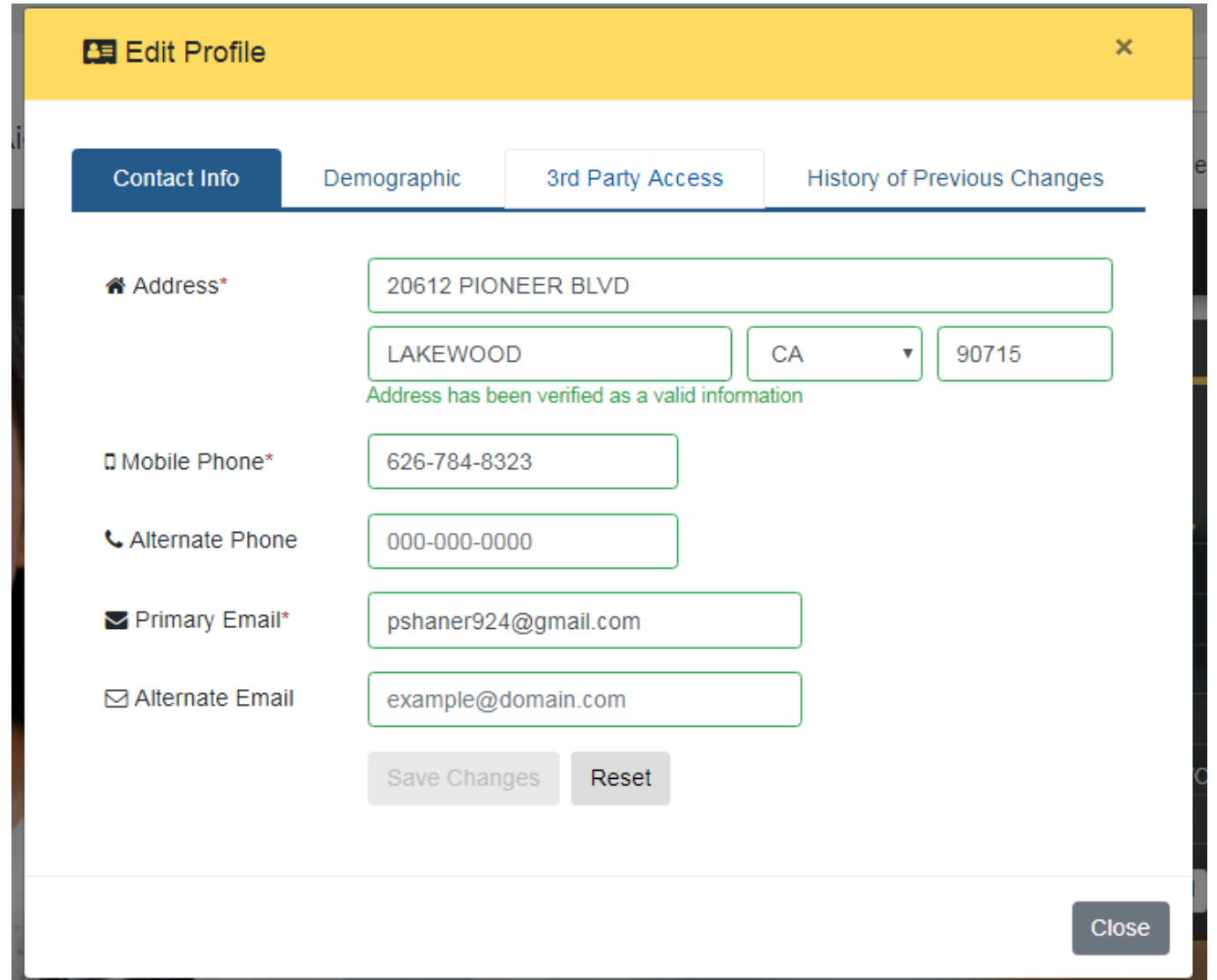
RESOURCES

- Search for a Cal Grant Eligible School
- Financial Aid Programs
- Foster Youth Resources
- Other Financial Aid Resources and Important Links

Edit Profile – Contact Info

TIP: Make sure your contact information is up to date so CSAC can reach you.

Here is the screen where you can edit contact information. Be sure to enter the information accurately.



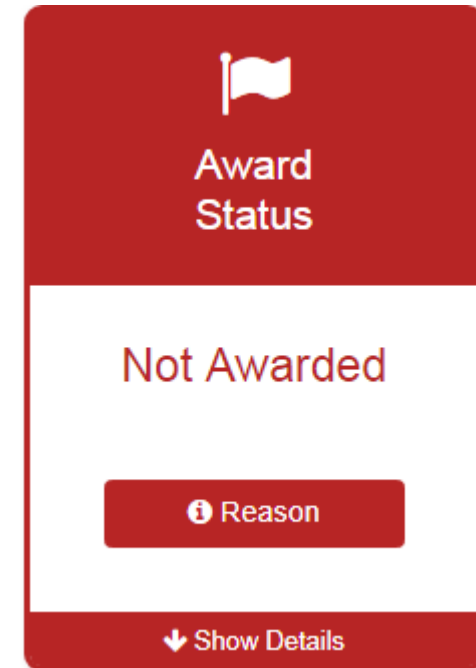
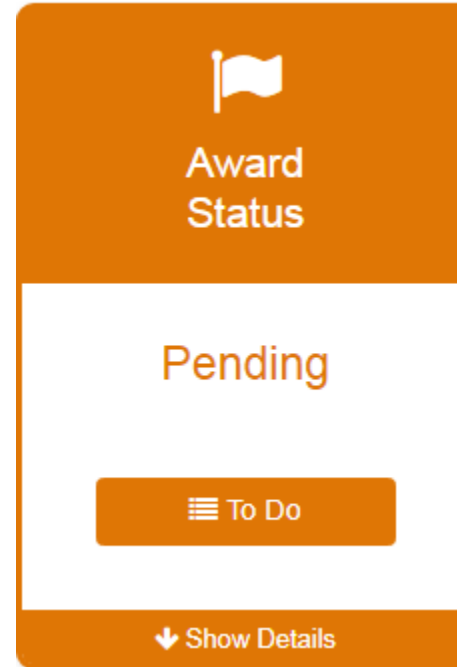
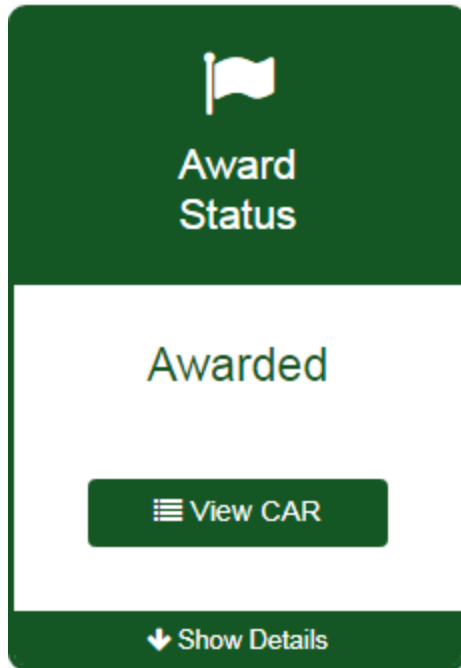
The screenshot displays the 'Edit Profile' interface with a yellow header and a close button. Below the header are four tabs: 'Contact Info' (selected), 'Demographic', '3rd Party Access', and 'History of Previous Changes'. The 'Contact Info' section contains the following fields:

- Address***: A text input field containing '20612 PIONEER BLVD'. Below it are three smaller input fields for city ('LAKEWOOD'), state ('CA'), and zip code ('90715'). A green message below these fields reads 'Address has been verified as a valid information'.
- Mobile Phone***: A text input field containing '626-784-8323'.
- Alternate Phone**: A text input field containing '000-000-0000'.
- Primary Email***: A text input field containing 'pshaner924@gmail.com'.
- Alternate Email**: A text input field containing 'example@domain.com'.

At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Save Changes' and 'Reset'. A 'Close' button is located in the bottom right corner of the window.

Check Your Award Status

Below are possible award status cards within WebGrants. If your Award Status is pending, click on your "To Do" list to determine next steps. If your Award Status is "Not Awarded", click on "Reason" to learn more and consult with the financial aid office or CSAC if you believe there is an error.





WebGrants To Do's

1. Check your award status and amount for the Cal Grant and Chafee Grant
2. Verify if there are any "pending" items or forms that still need to be completed
3. Confirm that your school of attendance is accurate. This is referring to the college you plan to attend, not your high school.
4. Verify that your GPA has been received. If not, contact your high school counselor or the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC).
5. Enter your high school graduation date. This will become available on the 1st day of the month of your planned graduation month.
6. If you applied for Chafee Grant, check that your "Department of Social Services Record" is complete to verify your foster youth status. Note: This is only verified monthly so it may take up to 6 weeks before this is verified. If it is not matched, visit chafee.csac.ca.gov to submit a verification form manually.

Congrats! You Did It!

Remember:

- **Continue to check your email and college student portal weekly.** The college will communicate with you if they need more information. Even after college starts, continue to check it often.
- **Respond promptly to any information request to provide verification in order to receive your financial aid,** such as a verification of foster youth status or an IRS Verification of Nonfiling Letter (if you didn't file taxes). Learn more at: www.jbay.org/resources/irs-vnf
- **Update all of your accounts if your address, email or phone number changes** (e.g. WebGrants, college portal, FAFSA/CADAA, etc.)
- **Apply for campus support programs,** such as EOP, EOPS, NextUp, Guardian Scholars or Disability Student Services, to help you succeed once in college. Learn more about these programs here: cacollegepathways.org/campus-support/.
- **Check out the Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth to learn how to maintain your financial aid:** jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide/. Once you receive financial aid, there are requirements you need to meet to keep receiving it.
- **Apply for private scholarships.** There is a lot of free money out there if you take the time to apply! Learn more by visiting: jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide/.
- **Reapply for FAFSA every year!**

California College Pathways
www.cacollegepathways.org

John Burton Advocates for Youth
(415) 348-0011 | info@jbay.org | jbay.org



JOHN BURTON
Advocates
for Youth

The logo for California College Pathways is enclosed in a thin grey rectangular border. It features the text "CALIFORNIA" in a green, all-caps, sans-serif font at the top, followed by a small orange star. Below this, the words "COLLEGE" and "PATHWAYS" are stacked in a larger, grey, all-caps, serif font. To the right of the text, there are three horizontal green bars of increasing length, stacked vertically to resemble a staircase or a set of steps.

CALIFORNIA ★
COLLEGE
PATHWAYS