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### The 2024-2025 FAFSA is Coming Soon!

December 13, 2023

PRESENTED BY

Mila Tappan, Manager of College Access and Outreach



### **Session Agenda**

### Here's what were going to discuss!

- Recent updates from Federal Student Aid
- What Needs to Happen for Student and Families to Get Ready
- FSA ID Update Process for Parents Without a Social Security Number
- FAFSA Process Changes
- FAFSA Formula Changes



### Recent Update from Federal Student Aid

### **Update from Federal Student Aid – 11/15/23**

- Students and families will be able to complete and submit FAFSA forms online by Dec. 31.
- Schools will begin receiving aid eligibility information, including Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs), by the end of January 2024, with information from paper FAFSAs to follow.
- We're recommending that students wait to file until a week to ten days after the FAFSA has been released.



### Recent Update from Federal Student Aid

### **Update from Federal Student Aid – 11/15/23**

- Additionally, students will also be able to make corrections and updates at the end of January 2024.
- Institutions will be able to make corrections in the following weeks.
- Students will be notified of their Student Aid Index or SAI (renamed EFC) and Pell Grant eligibility when the FAFSA is submitted but the FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS) (renamed Student Aid Report or SAR) won't be available until approximately February.
- If FSS is needed for a scholarship, check with the organization.
   Worthington will accept a copy of the submission confirmation email.



### **Help Students Get Ready**

### What Needs to Happen for Students and Families to Get Ready?



### Help Students Get Ready: A Few Basics

### Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID)

- First step in the FAFSA filing process.
- Accounts are created at StudentAid.gov.
- When an account is created, individuals set up a username and password (referred to as an FSA ID).
- An FSA ID is required to access the FAFSA and all Federal Student Aid processes and serves as legal signature.
- When creating an account, individuals provide identifying information including their Social Security number (slightly different process for those who don't have an SSN) so their identity can be verified.



### Help Students Get Ready: A Few Basics

#### **Contributors**

- A new term on the FAFSA.
- A contributor is anyone providing information on the FAFSA who is required to:
  - provide consent and approval (which allows IRS to disclose their federal tax information (FTI), and the DoE to use their FTI and redisclose their FTI to schools and organizations), and
  - have their own FSA ID.
- The student is always a contributor.
- Other possible contributors include the parent, the parent's spouse, and student spouse.



### Help Students Get Ready: Identify Contributors

### **Identify Parent Contributors**

- If parents are married and filed a 2022 joint tax return, information for both parents will be required but only one parent will need an FSA ID.
- If parents are married and filed 2022 taxes separately, or if parents live together but aren't married, information for both parents will be required and both parents will need their own FSA ID.



### Help Students Get Ready: Identify Contributors

### **Identify Contributors**

If parents are divorced, separated, or never married and don't live in the same household, the parent who provides the most financial support will be required to provide information on the FAFSA and will need an FSA ID.

If that parent is remarried on the day the FAFSA is filed, information for their spouse will also be required and their spouse will need their own FSA ID unless they filed a 2022 joint tax return.



### Help Students Get Ready: Contributors Need an FSA ID

### **Encourage All Contributors to Create an FSA ID**

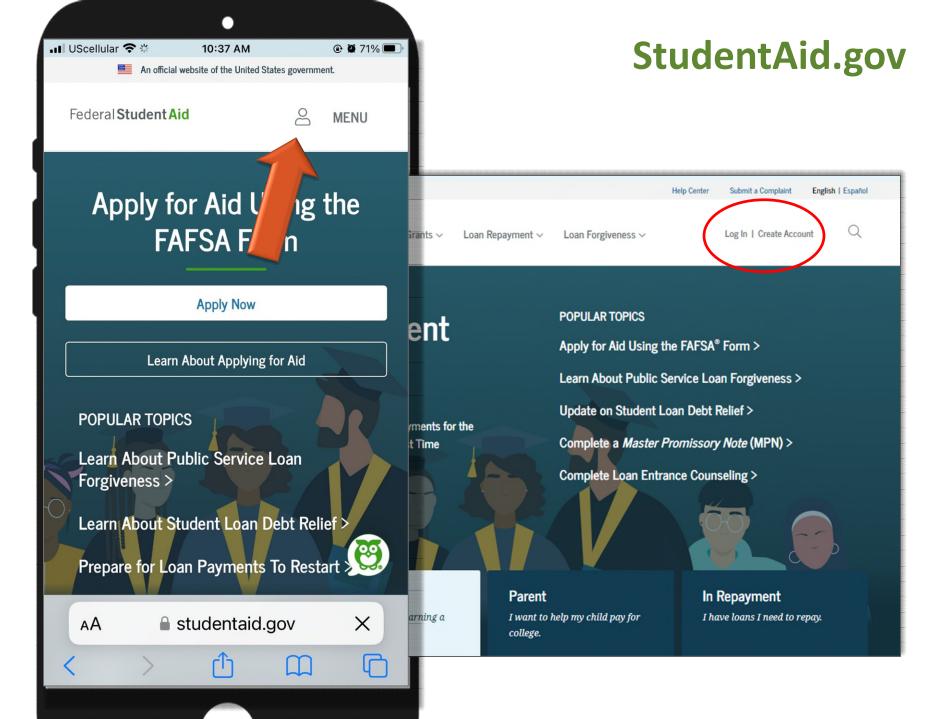
- Contributors who don't have an FSA ID should create an account early (at least a week before filing the FAFSA).
  - If FSA ID has not been authenticated manual entry of all tax related questions will be required.
- Create an FSA ID account at StudentAid.gov
  - Individuals will need a unique email address that can be accessed as it must be verified.
  - Students should not use their high school email address.
     Instead, create a new email address!
  - Ideally provide and verify a mobile phone number.



### Help Students Get Ready: Contributors Need an FSA ID

### **Encourage All Contributors to Create an FSA ID con't.**

- Contributors who have an FSA ID account should log into StudentAid.gov to make sure they know their username and password.
  - If unable to access account, retrieve username and/or reset password.
  - If account was set up without a verified email address, add and verify email address now.
  - If needed, information can be updated under "Settings."





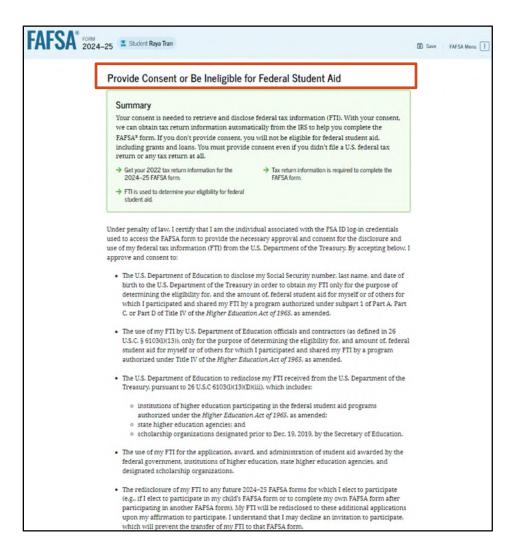
### Help Students Get Ready: Consent and Approval

### Convey the Importance of "Consent and Approval"

- All contributors will need to provide consent and approval, or student will be ineligible for aid!
- This includes non-tax filers, those who have filed for an extension, and those who file a foreign tax return.
- If didn't provide consent and approve originally, go back into the FAFSA and update.



### **Consent and Approval**



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### **Creating an FSA ID**

- Currently, individuals must have an SSN to create a Federal Student Aid account, referred to as an FSA ID (username and password).
- When an FSA ID is created, the individual's name, date of birth and SSN are matched with the Social Security Administration to verify the individual's identity.
- With the rollout of the 2024-2025 FAFSA, parents without a SSN will be able to create an FSA ID.

\*Students need to be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens and have an SSN (except for students from the freely associated states) – no change.\*

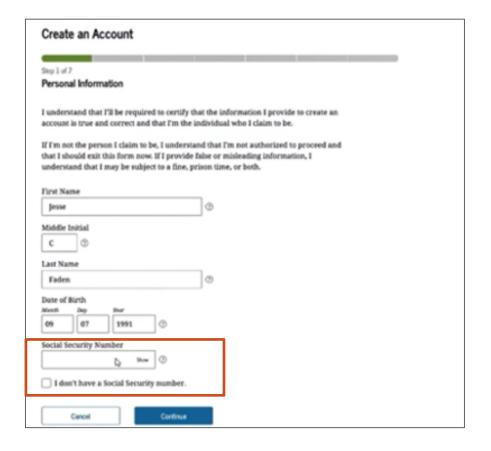


- Process for creating an FSA ID when a parent doesn't have an SSN is similar to process for those who do.
- Start by going to StudentAid.gov and clicking on "Create Account" (same for everyone!).
- The first step is to provide personal information, including SSN, if applicable.

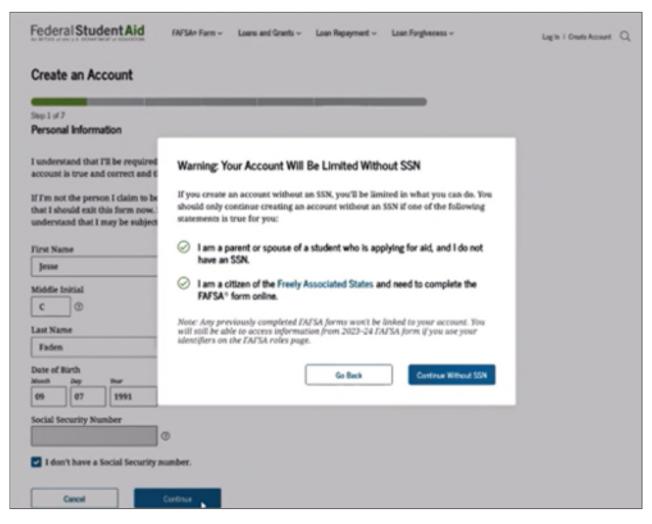


### **Creating an FSA ID**

If the parent doesn't have an SSN, they will click the new box under the SSN that says, "I don't have a Social Security number."









- Parent will create a username and password
- Parent must enter a unique email address (this is the case with all new accounts)
- Parent must provide mailing address
- Providing a cell phone number is optional but strongly recommended (must be unique)
- Remaining steps are the same as for those with an SSN except that there is an additional step.

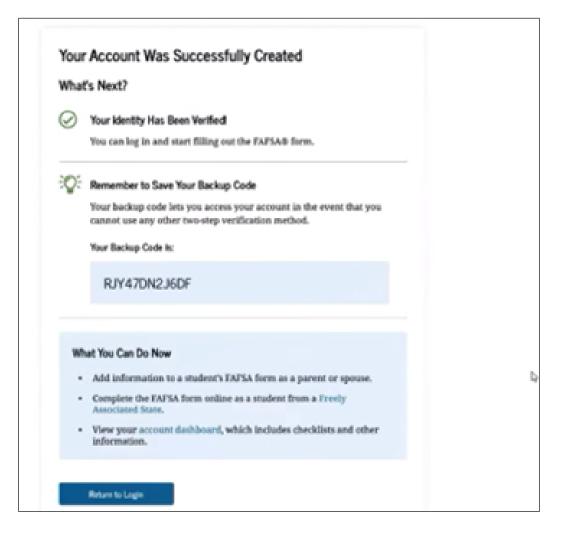


- After what is normally the last screen, parents will see a screen with four questions.
- There is no credit check and no credit history is required.
- Parent will have only one try to answer the questions.

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Sentity Ver	Ification
	l We're required to ask additional questions when you don't have a Social Security () to verify your identity. You must answer these to finish creating your account.
	f the identity verification will be displayed on the next page—note that you won't be able his page to answer these questions again.
Which o	f the following is the street name of your most recent previous address?
○ Flori	da Ase NW
○ Sesa	me Street
○ Lang	ston Pkwy
O None	of the above
Which o	f these phone numbers have you ever used previously?
016	775-5152
0 (970)	680-6586
(128)	791-0911
O None	of the above

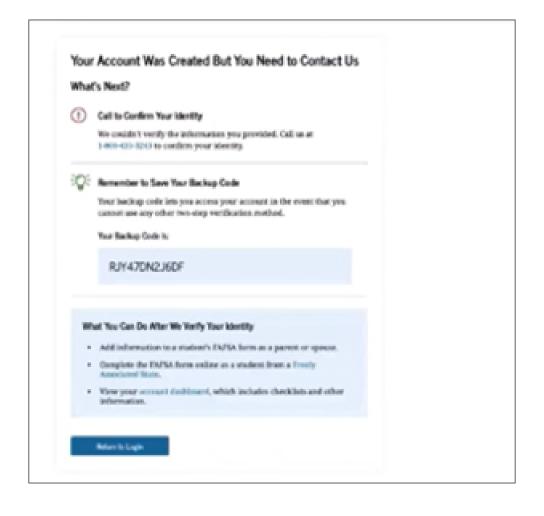


- If parent answers all four questions correctly, they will see this screen.
- The FSA ID can be used immediately to complete the FAFSA.





- If all four questions were not answered accurately, they will see this screen.
- The parent will need to call to confirm their identity.





### ID VERIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT SSN'S - PROCESS

Federal Student Aid

- Contact FSAIC at 1-800-433-3243
- A Customer Service Representative will look up your account and initiate the identity verification process
- You will receive an email with a case number and instructions for providing the proper documentation for us to verify your identity
- Submit the required documentation
- Within 1-3 days FSA will provide an email confirming that your identity has been verified



### ID VERIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT SSN'S - REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Federal Student Aid

- Completed Attestation Form
  - Will be available on StudentAid.gov
- Proof of Identity:
  - · ONE of the following forms of ID
    - · Driver's License
    - · State or City Identification Card
    - Foreign Passport

#### OR

- A UTILITY BILL + ONE of the following forms of ID
  - Municipal identification card
  - Community ID
  - · Consular identification card



- If not able to answer knowledge-based verification question, process is very similar to current ID account recovery process.
- Case number assigned and instructions for providing proper documentation will be emailed.
- When calling FSA, customer service support will be available in multiple languages (details will be added to the website.
- FSA training held on November 2 can be found in the FSA
   Training Center at <u>fsatraining.ed.gov</u> (must set up account to access).

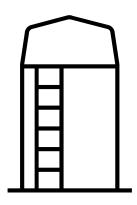




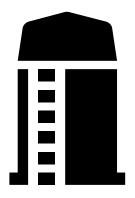
#### 2024-25 FAFSA is a *Roles-Based* form

Students will log in and see **only** student-related questions.

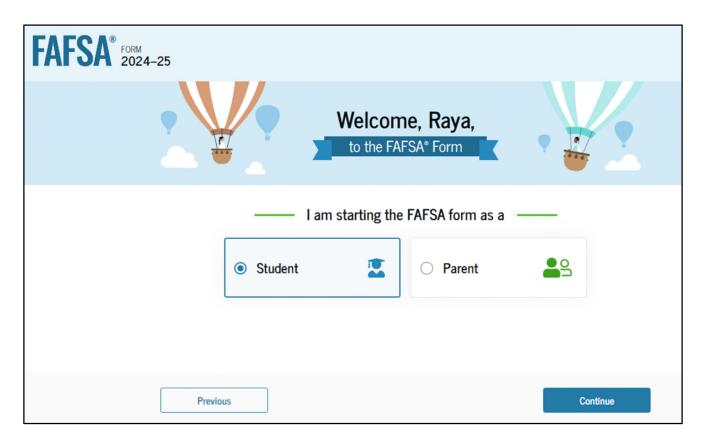
Contributing parent(s) will log in and see only parent-related questions.



**Either** student or parent can start the FAFSA and they will **"invite"** the other to complete the FAFSA.

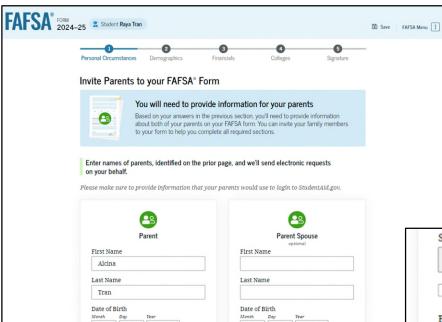






Either the student or the parent can start the FAFSA





When inviting a parent, the student **must** provide parent's legal name, date of birth, SSN (unless parent doesn't have one), and email address.

If the student starts the FAFSA and is dependent they will need to *invite their parent*(s) to complete the FAFSA

1973

My parent doesn't have a SSN	My parent doesn't have a SSN
Email Address	Email Address
alcinatran@school.edu	
Confirm Email Address	Confirm Email Address
alcinatran@school.edu	
Invite Parent	Invite Parent



#### **Discuss Who Will Start the FAFSA**

- Students and parent(s) should discuss who will start the FAFSA.
- Whoever starts the FAFSA will "invite" the other contributors.
  - Once the invite is sent, the other contributor can log in and start to file their section of the FAFSA.
- This "invitation" is how the student and parent sections of the FAFSA get connected.
  - If correct information is not provided, there will be no FAFSA to link to.
- Two-step verification will be required every time a student or parent uses their FSA ID.



### **FAFSA Formula Changes**



### **FAFSA Formula Changes**

### **Changes to Income Reporting**

- Almost all income questions will come directly from the Federal Income Tax Return.
  - The IRS Data Retrieval Tool (SRT) is gone and replaced with a Direct Data Exchange (DDX).
  - Federal Tax Information (FTI) will be imported into the FTI module and will not show on the FAFSA or FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS).
  - Manual entry of federal tax information will only be required in very limited situations.
    - Individuals are still required must provide consent and approval for student to be eligible for federal financial aid.
  - **EVERYONE** must provide consent and approval even nontax filers!



### **FAFSA Formula Changes**

### **Changes to Income Reporting**

- The untaxed income page is gone, and individuals will no longer be asked to report the following on the FAFSA:
  - Untaxed contributions to retirement
  - Worker's Compensation
  - Cash support and other money paid on the student's behalf
    - o This change means that:
      - Gifts to the student will no longer be reported as untaxed income.
      - Qualified distributions from 529 plans that are owned by a grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc. will no longer affect aid eligibility.



### **FAFSA Formula changes**

#### **Number in College**

- The parent SAI will no longer be divided by number of children in college at the same time.
- The question will remain on the FAFSA.
- Families can request a special circumstances review if impacted by the number in college.



### **FAFSA Formula changes**

### **Applicants Exempt from Asset Reporting**

- No asset questions for:
  - Families receiving federally means tested benefits
    - ✓ SSI, SNAP, TANF, WIC, Medicaid, and Federal Housing Assistance, Free and Reduced Lunch, and Earned Income Tax Credit
    - ✓ No additional income threshold
  - Most people with an income less than \$60K
     (depending on tax schedules)



### **FAFSA Formula changes**

### **Changes in Reportable Assets**

- Certain previous exclusions from assets have been dropped:
  - Small, family-owned businesses
  - Family farm (primary residence is still excluded)
- Because there is no longer an untaxed income section,
   child support received is reported in the asset section.

#### Resources



#### FAME FAFSA Simplification Resources

- FAMEmaine.com/FAFSASimplification
- Recordings and slide deck from previous trainings and FAFSA Fridays
  - October's FAFSA Friday focused on Pell Grants and Pathways
- Ten Important Changes to the FAFSA handout
- Glossary of Terms
- Case Studies

#### The 2024-2025 FAFSA Prototype

- <a href="https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2425">https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2425</a>
- Access Code: prototype2425

#### Financial Aid Estimator

<u>Federal Student Aid Estimator</u> | <u>Federal Student Aid</u>





### January's Wednesday Webinar Filing the 2024-2025 FAFSA

January 10, 2024

1:00 - 2:30

To register go to: FAMEmaine.com/events



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