



What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Slide Handout



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November 2023

What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

National Association of Student
Financial Aid Administrators Presents ...

What You Need to Know About Financial Aid



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Topics We Will Discuss

- What is financial aid?
- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Student aid index (SAI)
- Financial need
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- Special and unusual circumstances



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

What Is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses



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What Is Cost of Attendance (COA)?



Tuition and fees



Housing and food



Books and supplies



Transportation



Miscellaneous and personal



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

What Is Student Aid Index (SAI)?

Number resulting from the evaluation of a student's (and family's) approximate financial resources for a student's postsecondary education

Student contribution

Parent contribution
(for dependent students)



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What Is Financial Need?

Cost of attendance (COA)
– Student aid index (SAI)
= Financial need

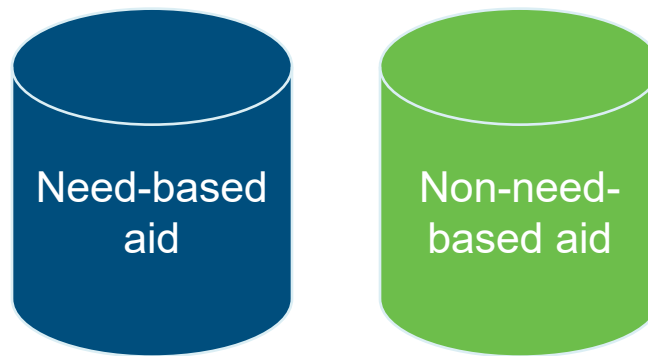


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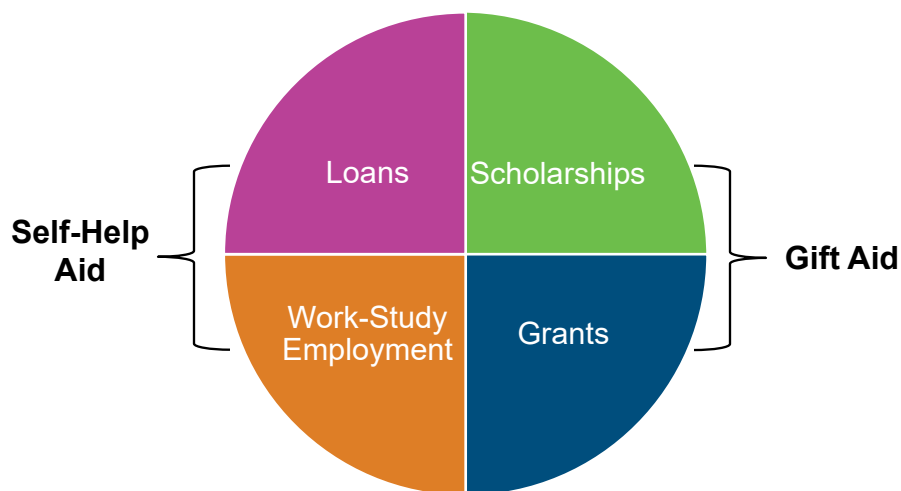
What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Categories of Financial Aid



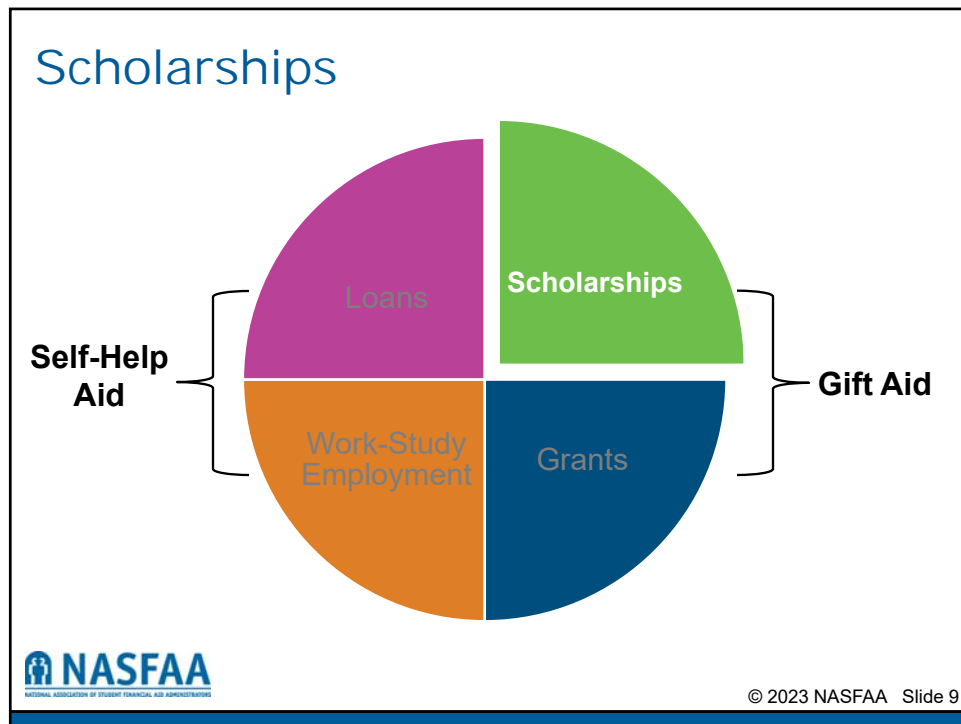
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Types of Financial Aid

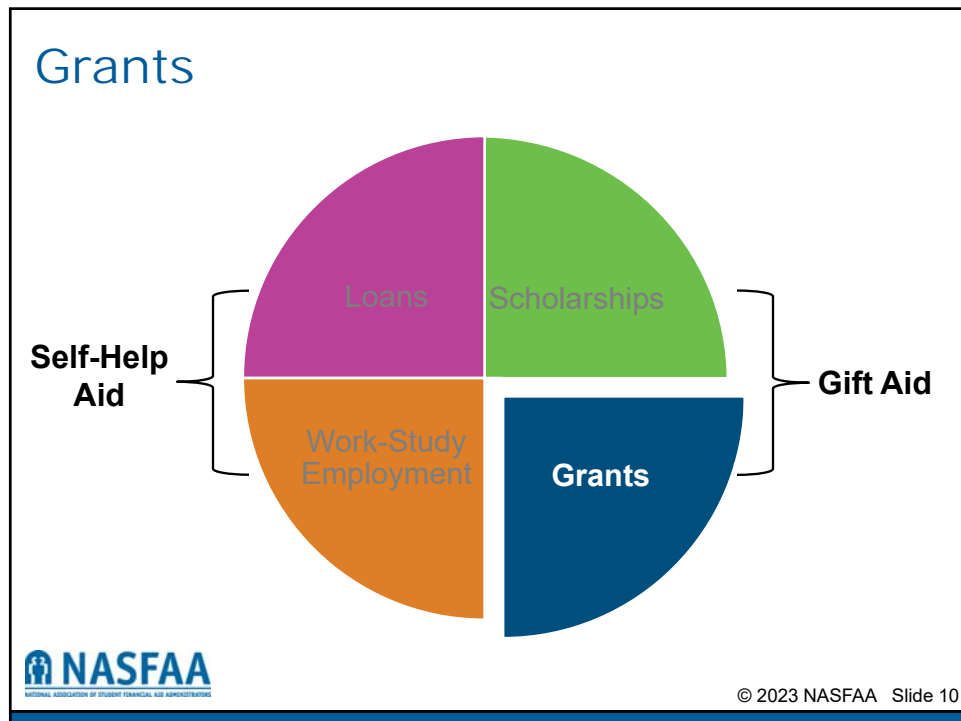


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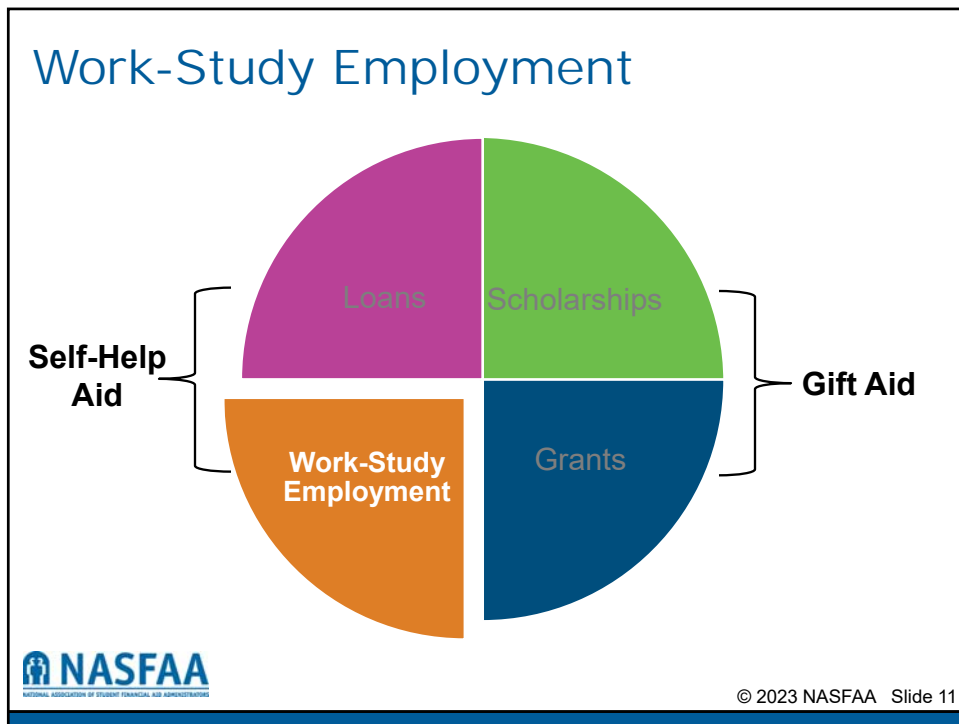


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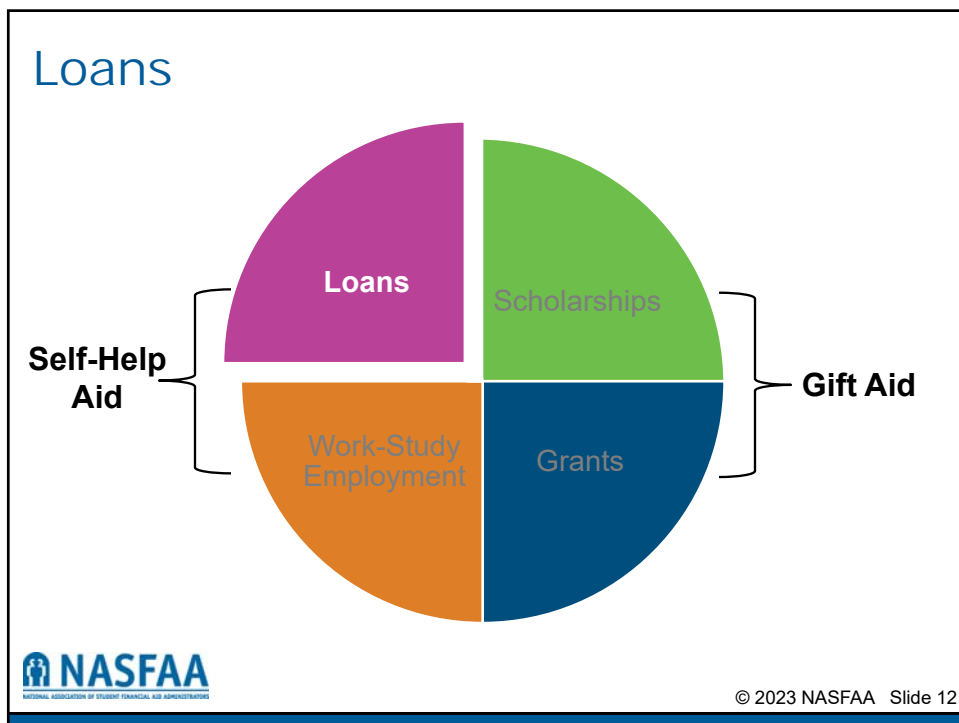


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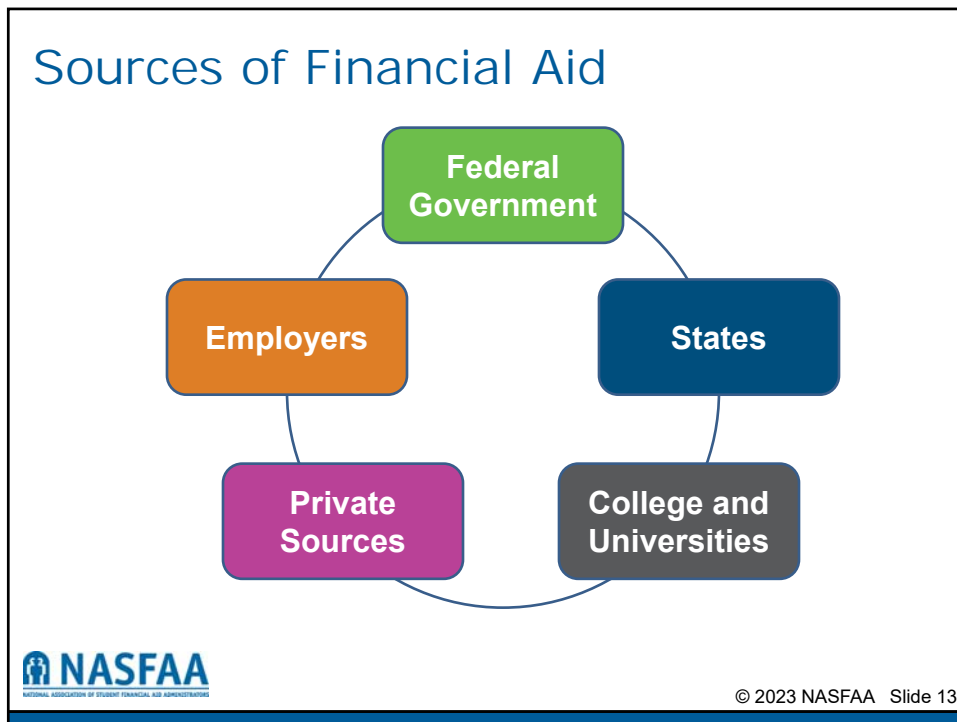


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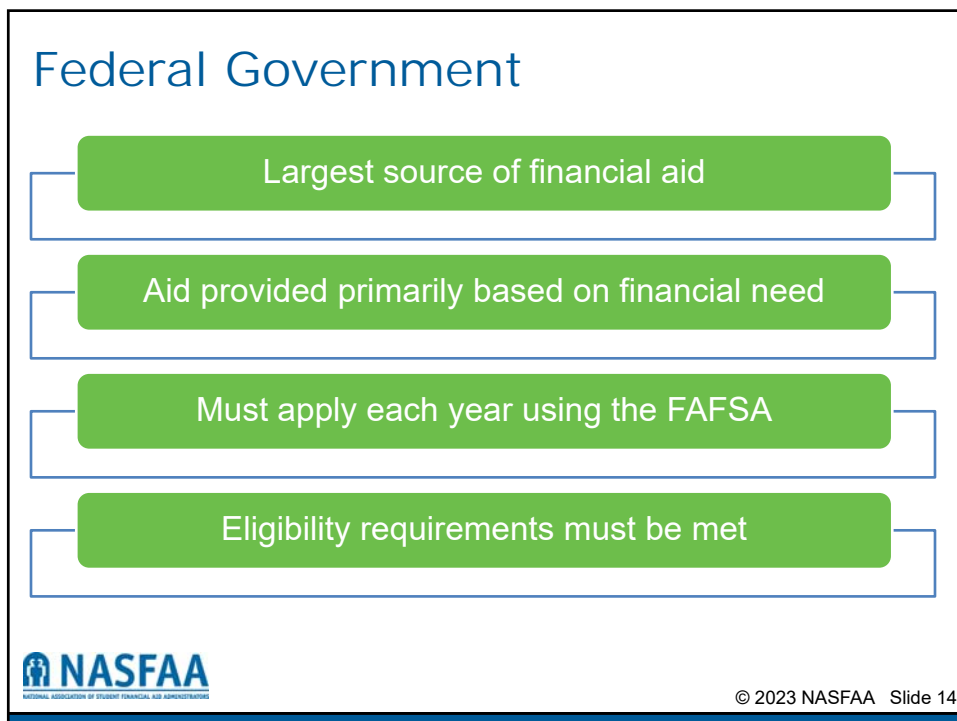


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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Federal Student Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grant

Federal Supplemental
Educational
Opportunity Grant
(FSEOG)

Teacher Education
Assistance for College
and Higher Education
(TEACH) Grant

Federal Work-Study
(FWS)

Federal Direct Student
Loans (Direct Loans)

Federal PLUS Loans



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States

Residency requirements usually apply

Aid may be provided based on
both merit and need

Use information from the FAFSA
and/or state aid applications

Deadlines vary by state



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Colleges and Universities

Aid provided based on both merit and financial need

Aid may be gift aid or self-help aid

Use information from the FAFSA
and/or institutional applications

Deadlines and application requirements
vary by institution



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Private Sources

Foundations, businesses, churches, civic,
and charitable organizations

Deadlines and applications procedures vary

Begin researching private sources early



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Employers

May have scholarships available to the children of employees

May have educational benefits for their employees



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Federal Student Aid Estimator

- Early estimation regarding SAI and possible Title IV aid available
- Requires demographic, income, and asset information



<https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator>



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- Collects demographic and financial information
- Information used to calculate the student aid index (SAI)
- Colleges use SAI to offer financial aid
- Available in English and Spanish



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Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but typically no earlier than October 1st prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- **For the 2024-25 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed starting in December 2023 (exact date to be determined)**
- Colleges may set FAFSA priority dates

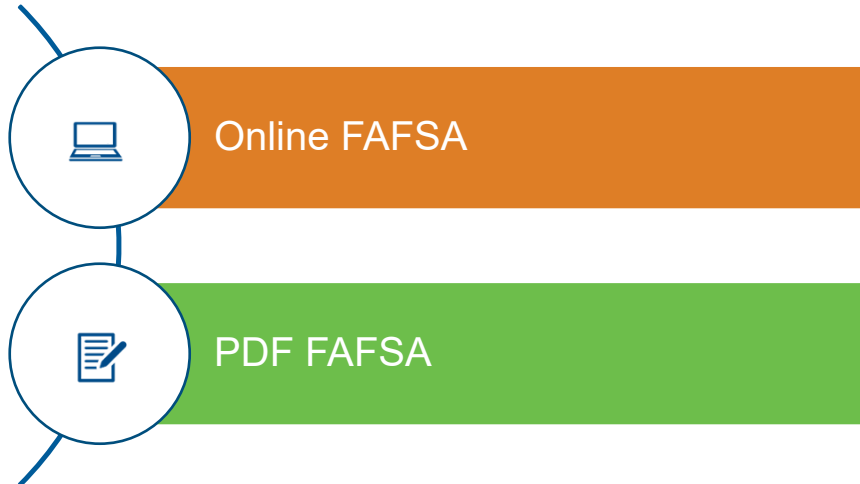


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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)



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Benefits of Using Online FAFSA

- Built-in edits to prevent costly errors
- Skip-logic allows student and/or parent to skip unnecessary questions
- No need to manually enter federal tax information (FTI)



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Benefits of Using Online FAFSA

- More timely submission of original application and any necessary corrections
- More detailed instructions and “help” for common questions
- Ability to check application status online
- Simplified application process



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Account Username and Password (FSA ID)

- Used for FAFSA completion and access to certain U.S. Department of Education websites
- Student and parent must create own FSA ID
- May be used throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
- Only the owner should create an FSA ID

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

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



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Online FAFSA

The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'FAFSA', 'Loans & Grants', 'Repayment', and 'Loan Forgiveness'. The main heading is 'Get Money to Pay for School'. Below it, a text box says 'Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.' A yellow circle highlights the '2024-25 FAFSA Form' link, which has a 'Start a New Form' button next to it. Below this, there's a section for 'Check FAFSA Deadlines for the State You Live In' with dropdown menus for 'School Year' and 'State of Residence', and a 'Find Deadlines' button. At the bottom, there are three informational boxes: 'Who Should Complete This?', 'How Long Will it Take?', and 'What Do I Need?'.

Note: Online FAFSA screenshots from U.S. Department of Education's 2024-25 FAFSA Form Preview Presentation, July 2023



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Online FAFSA

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2024-25 welcome screen. At the top, it says 'FAFSA FORM 2024-25'. Below that, a banner reads 'Welcome, Raya, to the FAFSA Form'. A progress bar indicates 'I am starting the FAFSA form as a'. There are two main options: 'Student' (selected with a radio button and a graduation cap icon) and 'Parent' (with a radio button and a family icon). At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

FAFSA Contributors

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2024-25 'Understanding the FAFSA Form' page, slide 2 of 4, titled 'Contributors to the FAFSA Form'. It features two main sections: 'Parents or Spouses' and 'How to Invite'. The 'Parents or Spouses' section states that their answers will determine if any contributors need to be identified. The 'How to Invite' section states that contributors will need to log in with their own FSA ID to provide their information. Below these sections is a box titled 'Information or Documents You May Need' which lists: Tax returns, Records of child support received, Current balances of cash, savings, and checking accounts, and Net worth of investments, businesses, and farms. At the bottom are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.



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FUTURE Act Direct Data Exchange (FA-DDX)

- Allows for an individual's federal tax information (FTI) to be directly transferred from the IRS to the FAFSA
- Consent is required by all contributors on FAFSA
- IRS transfers information to populate FAFSA income questions for most tax filers
- Eliminates manual entry of tax and income information



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

PDF FAFSA

- Can use the PDF FAFSA to review questions that will be asked on online FAFSA for student and parent/s, if applicable

Note: PDF FAFSA screenshots from U.S. Department of Education's Draft 2024–25 Federal Student Aid Application Materials, September 2023



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Student Information

- Identity and contact information
- Consent for FTI transfer from IRS
- Marital status
- College plans
- Personal and unusual circumstances



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Student Dependency Status

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2024-25 Student Dependency Status screen. At the top, there's a progress bar with five steps: Personal Circumstances, Demographics, Financials, College, and Signature. The 'Personal Circumstances' step is highlighted. Below the progress bar, the title 'Student Dependency Status' is displayed. A section titled 'Dependent Student' includes an icon of a person and text explaining that dependent students are those whose parents will pay for their education. Below this, a section titled 'Apply for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only' asks if the student's parents are unwilling to provide information. The question is: 'Are the student's parents unwilling to provide their information, but the student doesn't have an unusual circumstance that prevents them from contacting or obtaining their parents' information?'. Below the question, there are two radio buttons: 'Yes' and 'No'. The 'No' button is selected. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.



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Unusual Circumstances

- Conditions that justify an institution making an adjustment to a student's dependency status
- Student does not provide parental data on FAFSA
 - Considered provisionally independent
- Student follows institution's process for dependency override determination



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Student Invites Parents to FAFSA



- Student provides personal information about parents to invite them to complete parent portion of the FAFSA



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Student Information

- Demographic information
- Citizenship status
- Parents' education status
- Parent killed in line of duty
- High school information



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Student Financial Information

- Tax return information
 - Minimal questions if FTI transferred from IRS
- Asset information

The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Assets section. It includes three sub-sections: 'Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts', 'Current Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms', and 'Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate'. Each section has a text input field and a numeric input field for the dollar amount. The 'Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts' section has a value of 500.00. The other two sections have a value of 0.00. The FAFSA logo and '2024-25' are visible at the top left. A progress bar at the top indicates the current step is 'Student Assets'.



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Student Section Completion

- College selection
- Review of information
- Signature

The screenshot shows the FAFSA Student Section Completion screen. It features a celebratory banner that says 'You're Almost There! The Student Section is complete!'. Below this, there is a section for 'Parent Contributors' with a table showing the status of each contributor. The table has columns for 'Parent Contributor', 'Date Request Sent', and 'Status'. Two contributors are listed: 'Alina Tran' and 'Travis Tran', both with a status of 'Submitted'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Track and Manage Your FAFSA Application and Your Contributors' with a 'View Status' button. The FAFSA logo and '2024-25' are visible at the top left. A progress bar at the top indicates the current step is 'Student Section Completion'.



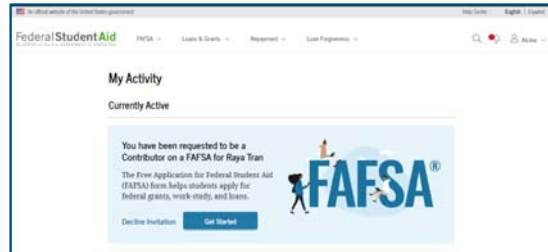
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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Parent Invitation

- Email invitation to complete parent portion of student's FAFSA
- Parents must use FSA ID to access FAFSA



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Parent Information

- Identity and contact information
- Consent for FTI transfer from IRS
- Marital status
- State of legal residence



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Parent Financial Information

- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits in the previous two years
- Tax filing status
- Family size and number in college
- Tax return information
 - Minimal questions if FTI transferred from IRS
- Assets
- Other parent information

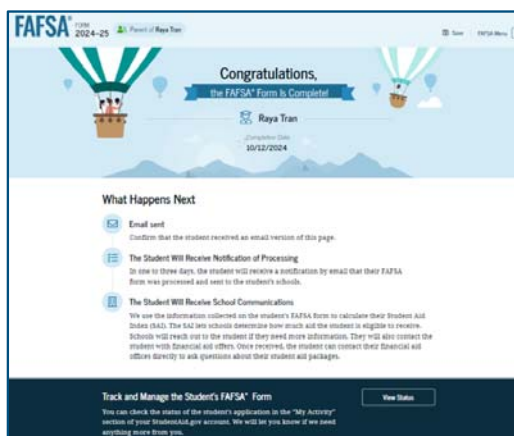


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Parent Section Completion

- Review of information
- Signature and submission of FAFSA



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Other Considerations

- If independent student is married, spouse information is required as well
- Consent to transfer FTI from the IRS is required for ALL contributors
 - Including student, student's spouse (if applicable), parent, and other parent (if applicable)
- Students, parents, and preparers may start, complete, and submit a FAFSA



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Who Is Included in Family Size?

Dependent Filers

- Student
- Parent (and spouse)
- Parent's dependent children, even if they live apart from the parent because of college enrollment*
- Other people if they live with the parent*

Independent Filers

- Student (and spouse)
- Student's dependent children, even if they live apart from the student because of college enrollment*
- Other people if they live with the student*

* Included only if providing more than half of their support between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025

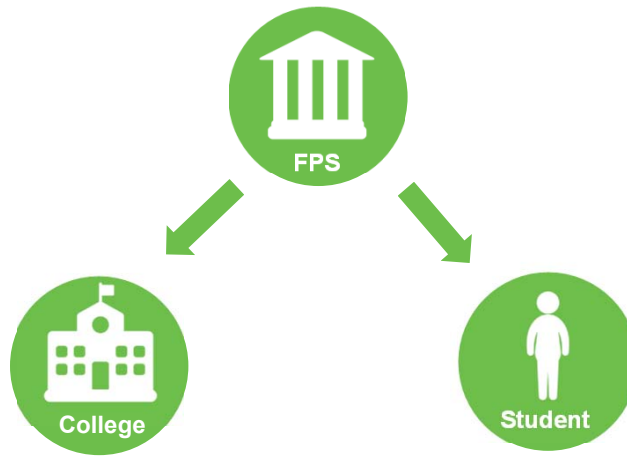


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FAFSA Processing Results



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FAFSA Submission Summary

- Four sections:
 - Eligibility Overview
 - FAFSA Form Answers
 - School Information
 - Next Steps
- Ability to print summary

Back FAFSA Form 2024-25 FAFSA Submission Summary Print This Page

Student	Phya Tran	Application Received	Sept. 10, 2024	Application Processed	Sept. 12, 2024	Data Release Number	2572	Viewing	Submission 1
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Eligibility Overview FAFSA Form Answers School Information Next Steps



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Paper FAFSA Submission Summary

Note: Paper FAFSA Submission Summary from U.S. Department of Education's Draft 2024–25 Federal Student Aid Application Materials, September 2023



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Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)

- FPS sends results to colleges listed on the FAFSA
- College reviews ISIR and may request additional documentation



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Making Corrections

If necessary, corrections to FAFSA data may be made by:

- Using online FAFSA;
- Updating paper FAFSA Submission Summary; or
- Submitting documentation to college's financial aid office.



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Special Circumstances

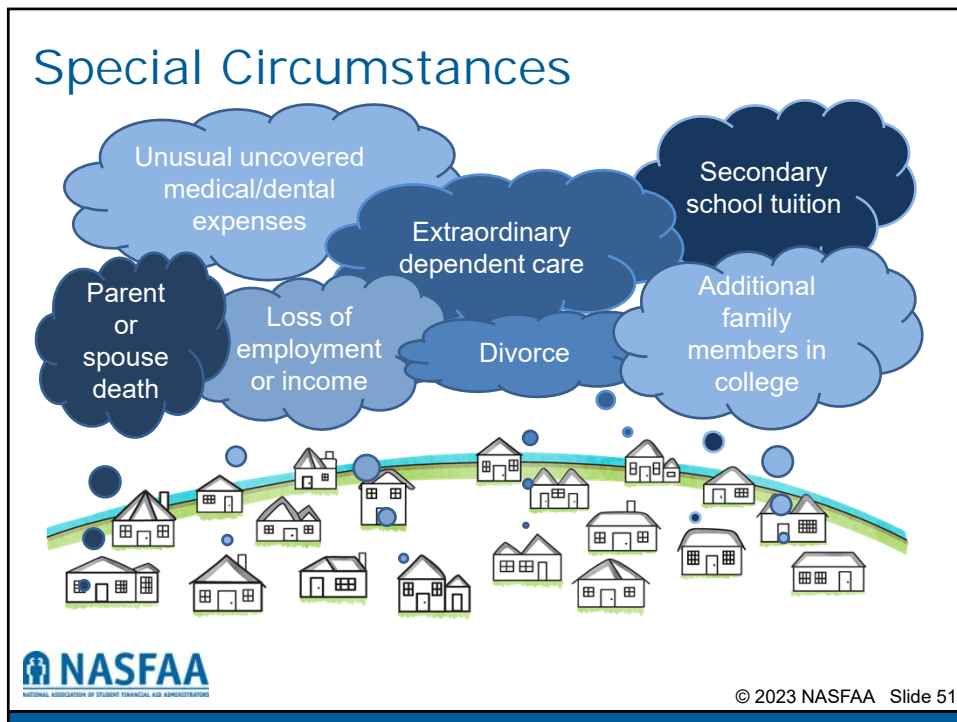
- Different than unusual circumstances (dependency overrides)
- Unique conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA, or circumstances have changed since filing
- Student should contact institution's financial aid office for more information
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



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of Student Financial Aid
Administrators (NASFAA)
provides professional
development for financial
aid administrators; advocates
for public policies that increase
student access and success;
serves as a forum on student
financial aid issues; and is
committed to diversity
throughout all activities.**

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