

Created for the 2022-2023 FAFSA

Student will be completing the 2022-2023 FAFSA

Documents needed before getting started (both Student and Parent)

- FSAID
- Social Security Number
- Student Driver's License (if applicable)
- Federal IRS Income Tax Returns from 2020
 - o Will be able to transfer this information directly to the FAFSA from the IRS
- Any value documents concerning Assets (only for additional assets outside the home you live in/ own)

Important Links

FSA ID	https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch
FAFSA	https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa
Student Aid Resources	https://studentaid.gov/resources
PDF Version of the FAFSA	https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-23-fafsa.pdf
FAFSA Helpline	1-800-433-3243

Key Terms : FAFSA Glossary

FAFSA	Free application for Federal Student Aid. Application used to apply for federal student loans, federal grants, and work study. Can also be used by schools for some instate aid and scholarships
FSA ID	The FSA ID is a username and password combination you use to log in to U.S. Department of Education (ED) online systems. This is your legal signature for the FAFSA.
Independent Student	An independent student is at least 24 years old, married, a graduate/ professional student, a veteran, a member of the armed forces, an orphan, a ward of the court, someone with legal dependents (not a spouse), an emancipated minor, or someone who is or at risk of being homeless.
Dependent Student	Student filing with a parent or legal guardian



Federal Loan	A loan is money borrowed from the federal government or a private source like a bank or financial institution, and must be paid back with interest.
<u>Grant</u>	A grant is a monetary gift for people pursuing higher education. It is often based on financial need and does not need to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund).
Work Study	Federal Work-Study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need. The program encourages community service work and work related to your field of study. To receive funds, you will need to be awarded work study and secure a job.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. When does the FAFSA open?
 - a. The FAFSA opened on October 1st every year
- 2. How long does the FAFSA take to complete?
 - a. It takes on average 5-10 minutes to create a FSA ID
 - b. It takes on average 45-60 minutes to complete the FAFSA
- 3. What is the deadline for the 2022-2023 FAFSA?
 - a. The Federal FAFSA deadline is June 30th, 2023. Alabama does not have a state deadline but it varies by academic institution. Most deadlines will be in the spring. Make sure to contact the academic institution to confirm deadline dates.
 - b. If applying for out of state schools, the student will need to check the state deadlines. Click Here to find deadlines.
- 4. Why do I have to fill out the FAFSA?
 - a. The FAFSA provides federal student aid to students going into post secondary education. The FAFSA allows students to receive federal loans, federal grants, work study, and is used by most schools to disperse in state aid as well as scholarships.
 - b. It is a graduation requirement for all High School Seniors in Alabama.
- 5. What is SAR and how do I access it?
 - SAR stands for Student aid report. SAR provides high-level estimates of the students eligibility for federal student aid; it is not the financial aid offer.
 - b. SAR can be accessed starting two weeks after the FAFSA has been submitted.
 - i. selecting "Log In" on the <u>FAFSA home page</u>
 - ii. entering your FSA ID; and



- iii. selecting "View or Print your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)" from the "My FAFSA" page.
- 6. How do I know if I am eligible for financial aid?
 - Every student who has a SSN or alien ID number is eligible for financial aid. The amount of financial aid varies based on expected family contribution.
- 7. What do I do if my parent(s) does not have a SSN?
 - a. The parent(s) will not be able to create a FSA ID but they can still sign their portion of the FAFSA by printing off the signature page, signing it, and mailing it to the FAFSA address provided.
 - b. Select signing options on the parent signature page for more information.
 - c. Do not put the parent tax ID number as the SSN, use zeros. 000-00-0000
 - d. For more information visit https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/financial-aid-and-undocumented-students.pdf
- 8. What happens after I submit my FAFSA?
 - a. The information collected will be sent to the academic institutions that the student listed on the FAFSA. The institutions will calculate the Expected Family Contribution and combine it with the cost of tuition to create a financial aid offer package. The institution will then reach out to the student with the financial aid package.

Additional Resources

Undocumented students	https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/financial-aid-and-undoc umented-students.pdf
Expected Family Contribution Booklet	https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/2223EFC FormulaGuide.pdf
Tax Information Process	https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/transfer-tax-info-to-fafs a.png
FSA ID Access (video)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IlwnEbOXSGg
Dependency Status	https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/dependency-status.png
Student Loan Basics	https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/direct-loan-basics-students.pdf



FSA ID: Overview

- What is a FSA ID?
 - The FSA ID is a username and password combination you use to log in to U.S. Department of Education (ED) online systems. The FSA ID is the legal signature and shouldn't be created or used by anyone other than the student—not even a parent, achild, a school official, or a loan company representative. You'll use your FSA ID every year you fill out a (FAFSA®) form and for the lifetime of your federal student loans.
- Dependent Student (most students will be filing as a dependent student)
 - Student and Parent must both create separate FSA IDs.
 - If the parent has filed previously with an older sibling or for themselves they must use that same FSA ID used to file previously.
- Independent Student
 - Only the student will have to create a FSA ID
 - Most students will file as dependent students. There are specific criteria to file as an independent student.

FSA ID: Tips for Getting Started

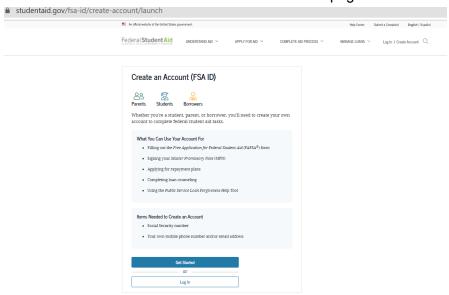
- Must use an email address that will be accessible in the future. Create a personal email if needed. Do not use a school email address.
- Parent and student will need to use different email addresses to create an FSA
- Make sure the social security number, name, and birth date all match up with the birth certificate and social security card.
- Keep track of this information including FSA ID, password, and security questions. This information will be used again every year the FAFSA is renewed.



FSA ID: How to create a FSA ID (5-10 minutes)

Visit https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch or https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa to get started. Both links can be used to create an FSA ID.

Provided below is a screenshot of the FSA ID Webpage



- Click "Getting Started"
- Fill out the information that the FSA ID requires. It will ask you to fill out your name (name on your birth certificate), SSN, date of birth, as well as some demographic information.
- Follow the prompts given. Make sure to keep track of the username (FSA ID), password, and security questions.
- A confirmation email will be sent once completed.
- Repeat the process for both parent and student FSA ID.

** The FSA ID can be found under settings> personal information> username. Username and FSA ID are the same.**

FSA ID: How do I retrieve my FSA ID?

- Follow the link- https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/sign-in/retrieve-username or click on "forgot Username" on the FSA ID log in page
- From there the student/ parent can enter either the email address, phone number, or their challenge questions to retrieve their FSA ID.
 - The student/ parent will have to enter their date of birth for the phone number and email address option. For the challenge question option, they will have to enter date of birth AND SSN.



- Follow the prompts given.
- If this does not work, call the FAFSA help line at 1-800-433-3243

FAFSA Overview

- What is FAFSA?
 - Free application for Federal Student Aid. Application used to apply for federal student loans, federal grants, and work study. Can also be used by schools for some instate aid and scholarships
 - FAFSA must be completed every year the student wants financial aid.
- What are the deadlines?
 - The FAFSA opens up every year on October 1st.
 - The federal deadline for the FAFSA is June 30, 2023. The FAFSA should be completed well before this. This deadline is for students who are starting college in the second semester and for students who need to amend their previously submitted FAFSA.
 - There is no set deadline for the state of Alabama. It varies by academic institution. The student will need to contact the schools they applied to or interested in attending to find out the deadline. Most school deadlines are in the spring.
 - Helpful Tip- Ask the school ""Is it the deadline date the date your FAFSA form is processed or the date the college receives your processed FAFSA data?"
- What will I need to fill out the FAFSA?
 - o FSA ID
 - Social Security Number
 - Student Driver's License (if applicable)
 - Federal IRS Income Tax Returns from 2020
 - Will be able to transfer this information directly to the FAFSA from the IRS
 - Any value documents concerning Assets (only for additional assets outside the home you live in/ own)

FAFSA: Getting Started

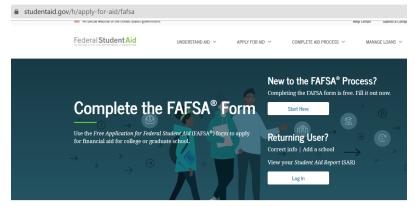
- Before starting the FAFSA both parent and student will need a FSA ID.
- The FAFSA can be completed at the following places
 - https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa
 - The MyStudentAid Mobile App
- "YOU" on the FAFSA always refers to the student unless otherwise noted
- FAFSA will take approximately 60 minutes to complete.



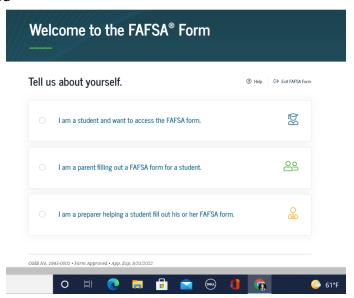
FAFSA: Step by Step Guide (60> minutes)

All Screenshots were taken from the FAFSA Demo Guide using a demo student information: Abe Lastname

1. Open the FAFSA web page and select the option that applies. "Start here" was selected for the purpose of this demo

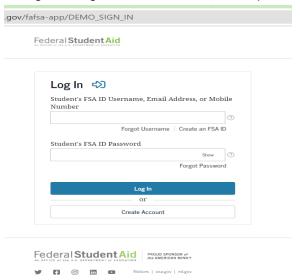


2. Select the best option that applies. "I am a student and want to access the FAFSA form" was selected

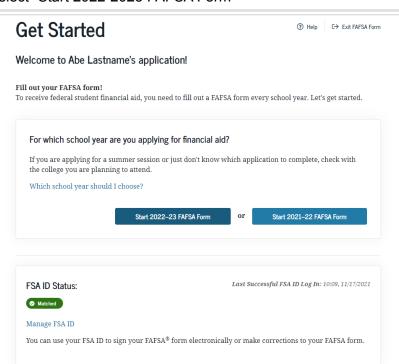




3. Log in using the student FSA ID and password

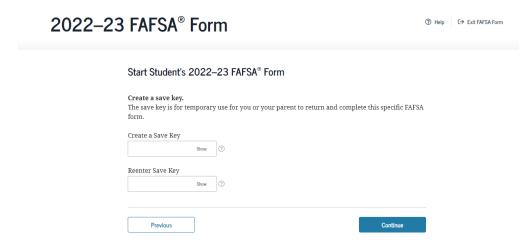


4. Select "Start 2022-2023 FAFSA Form

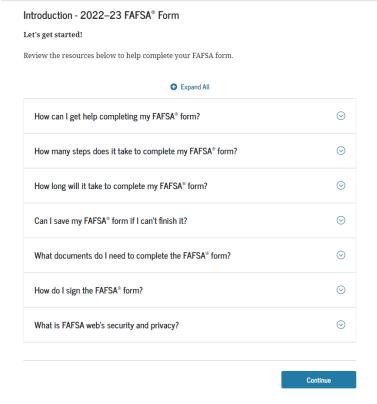




5. Create a 4 digit save pin. This is important because this pin is how the parent(s) will be able to access the student FAFSA to sign. This is also used to save the FAFSA if can't be completed in one sitting

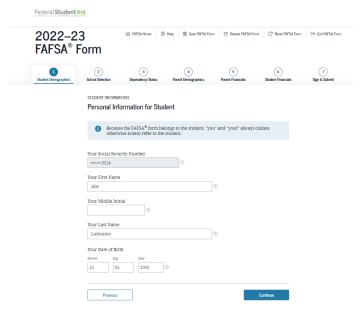


6. Select Continue. Federal Student aids provides resource before getting started

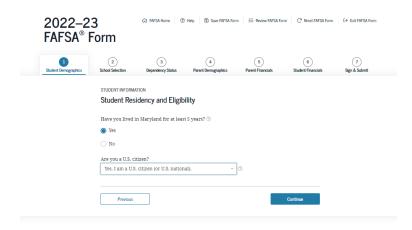




7. Confirm the student information and select continue. This information was transferred from the information entered for the FSA ID.



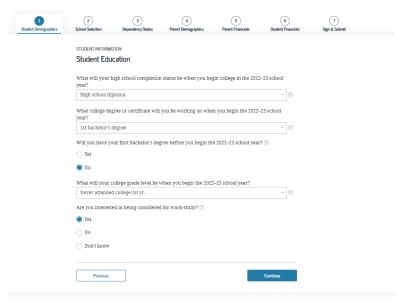
8. Select the option that applies and click continue

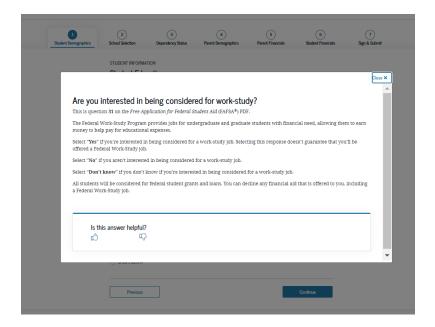




9. Select the option that applies. Most high school students will select the same answers as in the screenshot. **Work-Study:** Federal Work-Study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need. The program encourages community service work and work related to your field of study. To receive funds, you will need to be awarded work study and secure a job.

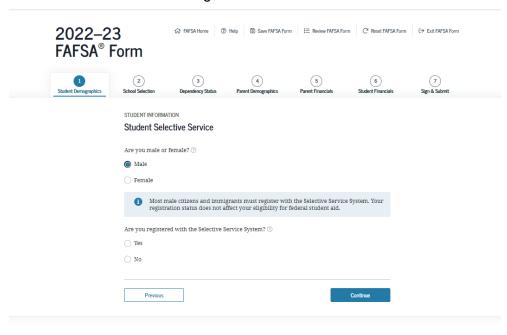
Click continue.



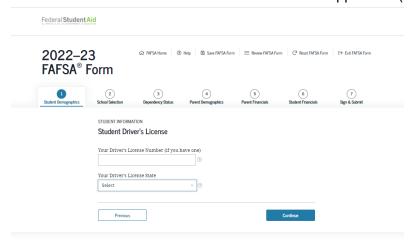




10. The next question asks about selective service. Selective Service in the United States Military Draft. Student aid will not be affected based on the answer. It will also give the option to sign up for selective service if the student identifies as male and is not already registered. Select continue after answering.

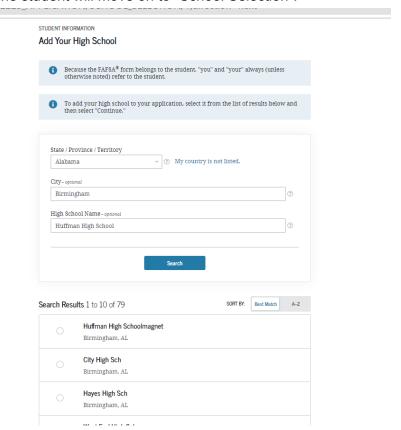


11. Enter the student's driver's license number if applicable (student). Click continue.



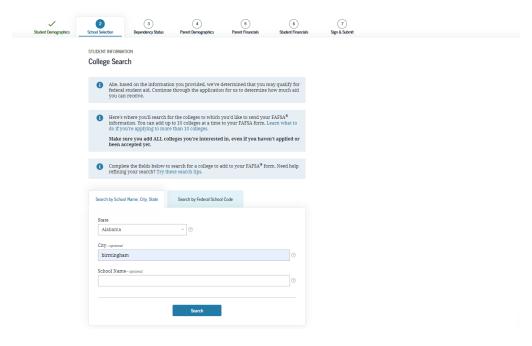


12. Select the High School the student currently attends. They can search it by state and city. Select the full name of the high school. *I.e.- Parker High School would be A.H. Parker High School*. Click continue once selecting the school. The student demographic section is complete. The student will move on to "School Selection".

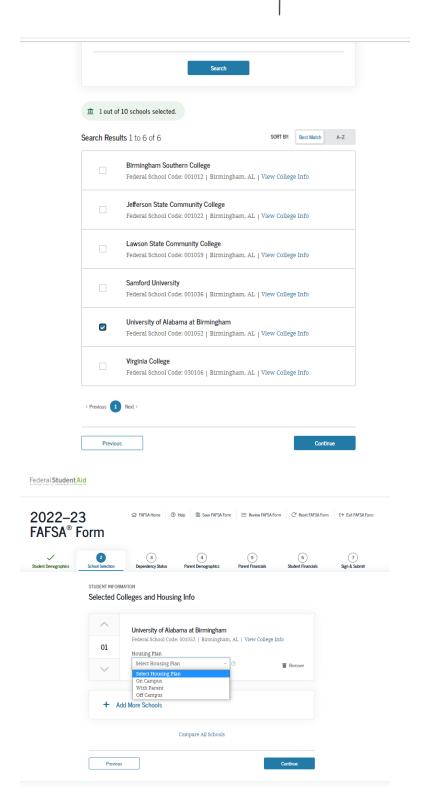




13. The student will enter in the colleges, universities, and trade schools that they applied to or are interested in. Once the student has been accepted into school(s), the schools they enter will receive their FAFSA information so that the institution can create an Offer Letter. **The student can enter up to 10 academic institutions at this time.** After they submit your FAFSA and it is processed, the student can go back in and add more schools if needed. After searching and selecting a school, it will ask the student their housing plans (on campus or off campus). Select the option that applies. Click "add more schools" to add more schools after each school entered. Click continue when finished.

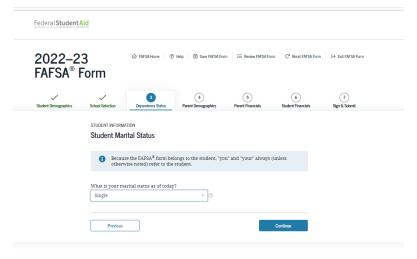




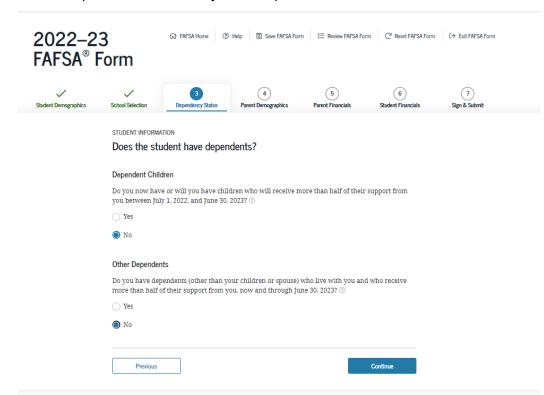




14. The student will select their marital status. Most students will select "single". Click continue.

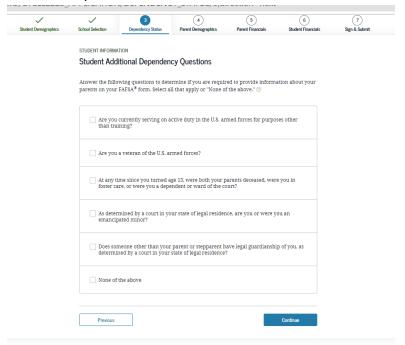


15. This question asks about how many dependents the student has. Most students will select no to both questions unless they have dependents.

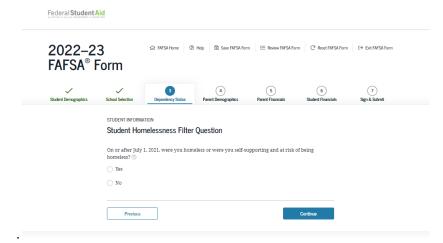




16. This question will determine if the student will be filing as an independent student or dependent student. The student will only be considered an independent student if they select any of the options below. Select "none of the above" if none of the options apply and select continue. Most students will file as a dependent student. If the parent does not want to sign but the student does not fall within the independent status select "none of the above". The following question will ask if the student wants to provide their parent's information which they can select "no" under special circumstances.

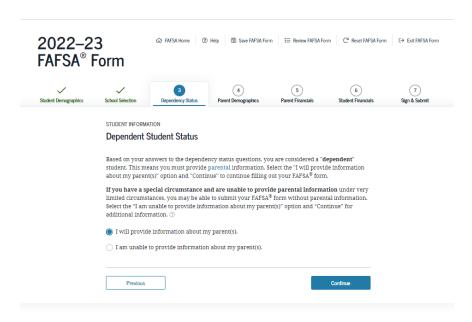


17. Select the option that applies and click continue.

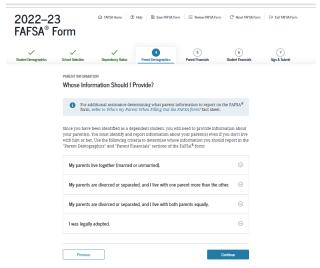




18. Select the option that applies best. If the parent does not want to provide information, select "I am unable to provide information about my parent (s)". This option will skip the parent information section and take the student directly to "student financials". Most students will select "I will provide information about my parents" and move on to the "parent demographic" section. Click continue.

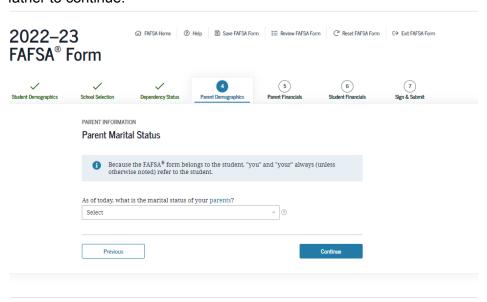


19. FAFSA provides parent resources before continuing on. FAFSA considered a parent to be a biological parent or a legal (court appointment) guardian. The student will not be able to file with anyone other than those two options. Click continue.



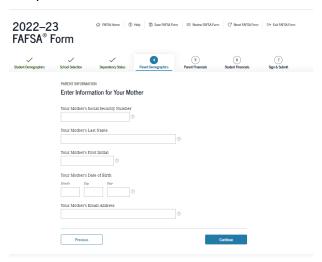


20. Select the option that applies. Click continue. If parents are married, a follow up question will ask if you want to provide both parents information or just one. Only one parent will have to sign. If the student is only providing one parents information, they can select either mother or father to continue.

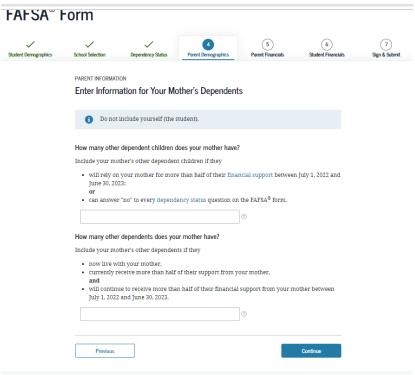




21. Provide the parent information. For the purpose of this demo, only the mother's information was provided. Click continue.

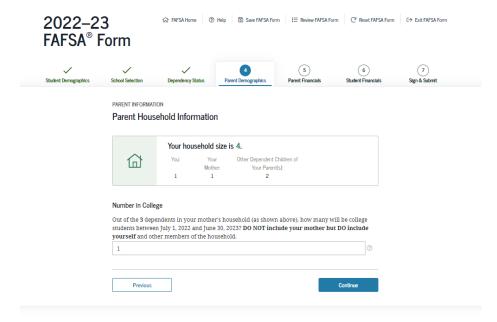


22. Enter in the number of dependents the parent(s) claimed on their taxes. The first question is regarding the number of children claimed on the parent's taxes. The second question refers to the number of dependents the parents claimed on their taxes excluding children.



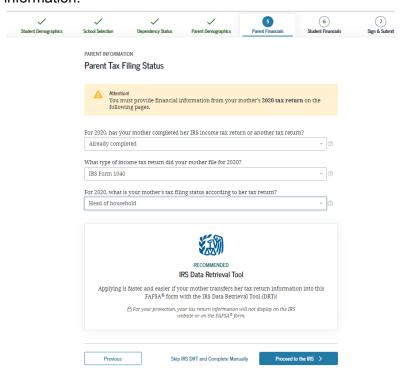


23. *Numbers provided are example numbers*. Provide the number of dependents who will be in college during the time frame listed. This does not include parents but the student is included. The number listed should be at least 1(student). Click continue.

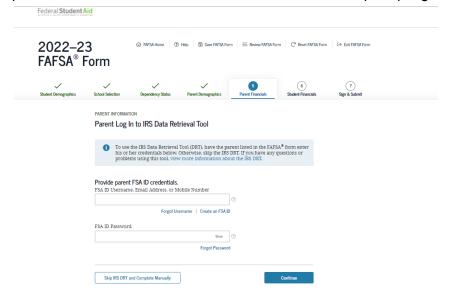




24. Select the options that apply. The student will select which tax form their parents filed in 2020. Tax information can be transferred via the IRS by clicking "proceed to the IRS". Follow the prompts given to transfer tax information. There is also the option to manually enter the tax information.



25. The parents will have to use their FSA ID to log into the IRS retrieval tool. From here the parent will be directed to the IRS website to follow the prompts given.



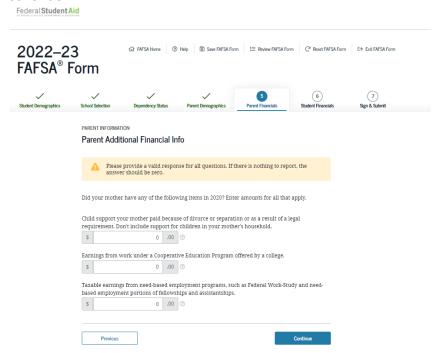


26. Provide the necessary information for the additional tax questions. If none of the questions apply, enter "0".

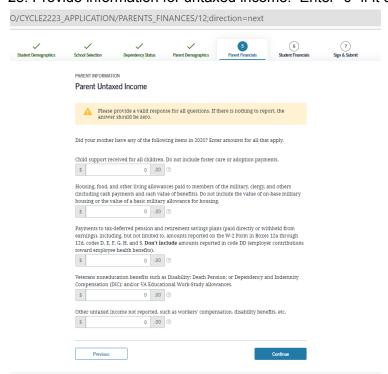
Parent Questions for Tax Filers Only Please provide a valid response for all questions. If there is nothing to report, the answer should be zero. Did your mother have any of the following items in 2020? Enter amounts for all that apply. Combat pay or special combat pay. This should be zero for enlisted persons and warrant officers (including commissioned warrant officers) because combat pay is entirely nontaxable. Only enter taxable combat pay included in your mother's adjusted gross income. 0 .00 Student college grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your mother's income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships. 0 .00 Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from 1040 Schedule 3-line 3. 0 .00 ③ Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions from IRS Form 1040— (lines 4a + 5a) minus (lines 4b + 5b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here. 0 .00 ② IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh, and other qualified plans from IRS form $1040\,\mathrm{Schedule}\,1$ -total of lines 15-19. Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040-line 2a. 0 .00



27. Provide the necessary information. Enter in "0" if these questions do not apply. Click continue.

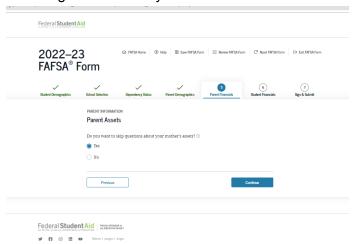


28. Provide information for untaxed income. Enter "0" if it does not apply. Click continue.

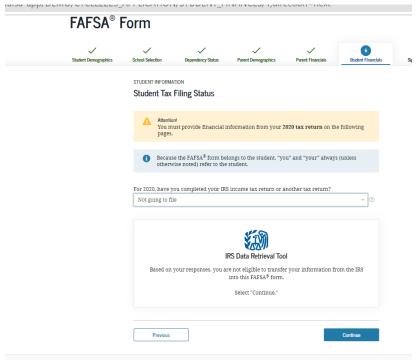




29. The student can select "skip the following questions" if they do not have any addition assets excluding the home they own/ live in.

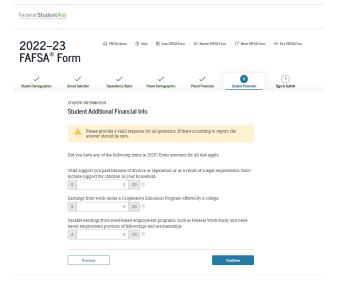


30. In this section, the student will fill out information regarding student taxes. Most students have not filed taxes so they will select "not going to file" and click continue. If they have filed taxes, they have to transfer their tax information using the IRS retrieval tool. (same process as parent tax retrieval)

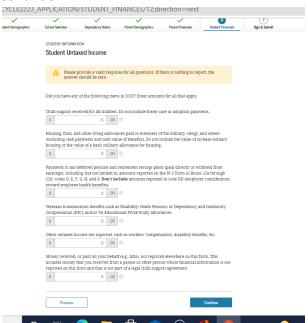




31. Provide any additional financial information. If it does not apply enter "0".

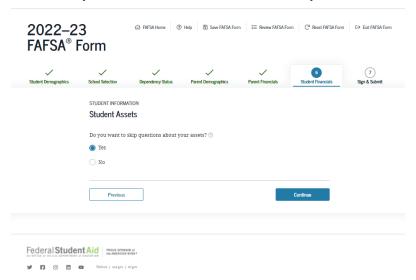


32. Provide information regarding student untaxed income. Enter "0" if it does not apply. Click continue.

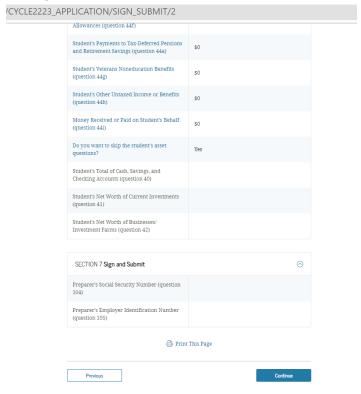




33. Select yes if the student does not have any assets. Click Continue.

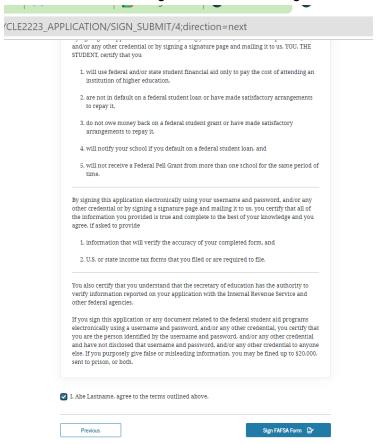


34. This is the final section where the student will sign their portion of the FAFSA. The student will be provided with a summary of their answers. Review and make any edits necessary before moving on.



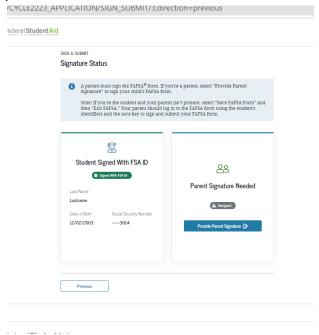


35. Please read the following carefully and agree to the terms before signing the student portion of the FAFSA. Select "sign FAFSA form" to sign FAFSA.

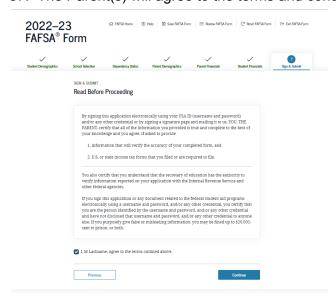




36. The student has successfully completed and signed their portion of the FAFSA. The student CAN NOT sign their parents portion of the FAFSA. The Parent(s) will select "Provide Parent Signature". If a parent is signing at a separate time, the student will have to log into their FAFSA and it will take them to this page or Parent can sign in with their FSA ID and select "Im a parent". It will ask for their student's information and student **save pin**.



37. The Parent(s) will agree to the terms and conditions to sign the FAFSA. Click continue





38. The parent will have to enter their FSA ID to sign the form. Only one parent will have to sign. Once submitted the FAFSA will take a few days to process. The student should receive a confirmation email once all portions have been completed. There are other parent signature options available please see the resources in the additional resource section of this document.

