How to use NASFAA's Comment Code Crosswalk

The comment code crosswalk is intended to help financial aid administrators compare the 2024-25 comment codes to 2023-24, since most comment codes have changed between these two years. Please note that we have attempted to match the codes based on the purpose of the comment and the resolution required by the student or school, so minor comment code text changes are not noted in the crosswalk if they do not change the purpose of the comment or the resolution required.

The comment code crosswalk follows the order of the 2024-25 FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS, formerly the Student Aid Report, or SAR) and Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) comment codes from the Department of Education's 2024–25 FAFSA® Specifications Guide, Volume 7 – Comment Codes and lists, for each 2024-25 comment code, its corresponding 2023-24 comment code (in the 2023-24 Comment Code column.)

The **2024-25 Reason for Comment, 2024-25 FPS C Flag, 2024-25 Reject Code, & 2024-25 Action Needed** columns are copied directly from the <u>2024–25 FAFSA® Specifications Guide</u>, Volume 7 – Comment Codes.

The *Comment Code Numbering Changed in 2024-25 from 2023-24?* column indicates whether the code numbering has changed between years (Y/N.)

The *Description of 2024-25 Changes* column explains what has changed from 2023-24 to 2024-25 for each comment code. *Reassigned comment code* means the comment text was used in 2023-24, but a new comment code (number) has been assigned to it, whereas *New comment* means the comment text is new for 2024-25 and has been assigned a comment code.

The NASFAA notes column provides additional explanatory text from NASFAA to describe changes from 2023-24 to 2024-25. It also notes comment codes we believe contain errors in the 2024–25 FAFSA® Specifications Guide, Volume 7 – Comment Codes (highlighted in yellow.) NASFAA has alerted the Department of Education about these issues and will update the comment codes crosswalk as we receive new information.

New comment code example

See 2024-25 comment code 026 on the comment code crosswalk. The reason for comment is the student left the FAFSA ethnicity fields blank, and comment text instructs the student to make a correction. Resolution is required and this comment is associated with reject code 9, but there is no associated C flag. This comment is classified as a *new comment* because there was no comment associated with student ethnicity in 2023-24 (because this is a new FAFSA question.)

Reassigned comment code example

See 2024-25 comment code 016 on the comment code crosswalk. The reason for comment is that the student changed their marital status. The comment text instructs the student to make a correction, and there is no C flag or reject code associated with this comment code. This comment is classified as a *reassigned comment* because comment code 016 was used in 2023-24, but the comment text referred to the student's father's date of birth not matching Social Security Administration records.

