



2027-28 FAFSA Update

October 14, 2026



NASFAA Webinar

2027-28 FAFSA Update

Table of Contents

Slides 1

Resources 37

© 2026 by National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). All rights reserved.

NASFAA has prepared this document for use only by personnel, licensees, and members. The information contained herein is protected by copyright. No part of this document may be reproduced, translated, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronically or mechanically, without prior written permission from NASFAA.

NASFAA SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR TECHNICAL OR EDITORIAL ERRORS OR OMISSIONS CONTAINED HEREIN; NOR FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE FURNISHING, PERFORMANCE, OR USE OF THIS MATERIAL.

This publication contains material related to the federal student aid programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act and/or Title VII or Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act. While we believe that the information contained herein is accurate and factual, this publication has not been reviewed or approved by the U.S. Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, or the Department of the Interior.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Education.

NASFAA reserves the right to revise this document and/or change product features or specifications without advance notice.

October 2026



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026



Welcome to NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update

October 14, 2026

1

Thank you to our Webinar Sponsor



© 2026 NASFAA

2



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026

Webinar Housekeeping – Welcome!



Audio is streaming - select the "CC" icon to display captions



Download the handout(s)



Submit your questions



Print your certificate



Chat with attendees



Complete the survey

Slide 3 © 2026 NASFAA

3

Introductions



Tiffany Gibbs
Director of Online Compliance
Products
NASFAA



Lissa Powell
Training Content and Presentation
Specialist
NASFAA

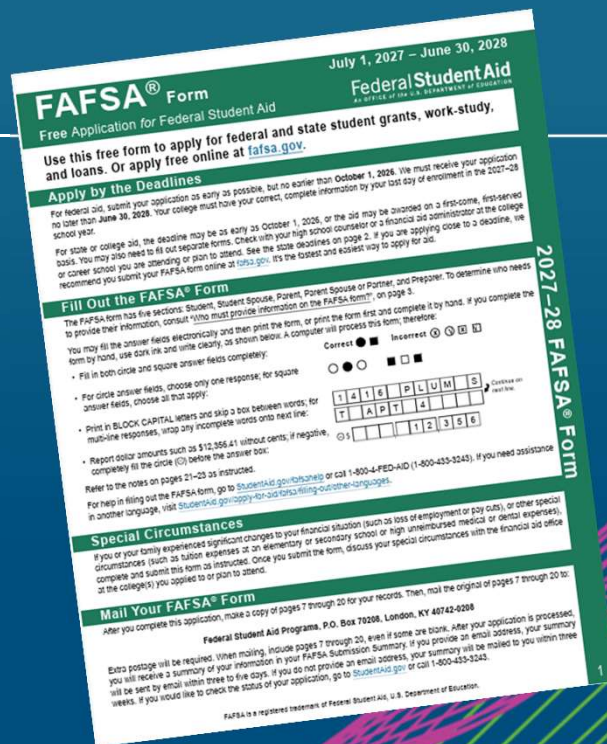
Slide 4 © 2026 NASFAA

4

Agenda

- FAFSA Simplification Act
- OBBBA Changes
- 2027-28 FAFSA
- FAFSA-Related Tools

Slide 5 © 2026 NASFAA



The image shows the cover of the 2027-28 FAFSA Form. It is titled 'FAFSA® Form' and 'Federal Student Aid'. The dates 'July 1, 2027 - June 30, 2028' are at the top right. The text says 'Free Application for Federal Student Aid' and 'Use this free form to apply for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans. Or apply free online at fafsa.gov.' It also includes 'Apply by the Deadlines' and 'Fill Out the FAFSA® Form' sections. The bottom section is 'Special Circumstances' and 'Mail Your FAFSA® Form'.

5

Poll Question

What's your current skill level in the FAFSA kitchen?

- ☐ **Cereal and Toast:** I stick to the absolute basics and hope I don't burn anything. 🍌
- ☐ **Strict Recipe Follower:** I can make a solid meal, but only if I follow the step-by-step instructions exactly. 📖
- ☐ **Chopped Champion:** I can look at a random basket of ingredients and whip up a great strategy on the fly. 🔍
- ☐ **Michelin-Star Chef:** I invent the recipes, manage the kitchen, and teach others how to cook. 🌟

Slide 6 © 2026 NASFAA

6



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026



FAFSA Simplification Act

Slide 8 © 2026 NASFAA

8

FAFSA Simplification Act

- FAFSA Simplification Act
 - Part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021
 - Only information required for need analysis calculation may be included on the application
- Use of federal tax information (FTI)

Slide 9 © 2026 NASFAA

9

FA-DDX

FTI populates FAFSA using Future Act Direct Data Exchange (FA-DDX)

- Tax filing status
- Adjusted gross income
- Number of dependents
- Income earned from work
- Taxes paid
- Education tax credits
- Untaxed IRA distributions
- Untaxed pension and annuity distributions
- IRA deductions and payments
- Tax-exempt interest
- Schedule C net profit or loss
- Indicators for Schedules A, B, D, E, F, and H
- IRS Response code

Slide 10 © 2026 NASFAA

10

FA-DDX and IRS Response Codes

IRS Response Code	Description	Result
200	Successful Request	FTI was successfully transferred into FAFSA
203	Personally Identifiable Information Match Failed	Identifiers do not match IRS records (IRS error code; unable to confirm tax identity)
206	Partial Delivery of Content	FTI transfer incomplete (IRS error code)
212	Cannot Verify Return Data	Unable to confirm tax return data (IRS error code)
214	No Return on File	Contributor did not file a tax return

Slide 11 © 2026 NASFAA

11

FA-DDX

FTI also includes derived FTI values listed on the ISIR

- Total Parent Allowances Against Income;
- Parent Payroll Tax Allowance;
- Parent Income Protection Allowance (IPA);
- Parent Employment Expense Allowance (PEEA);
- Parent Available Income (PAI);
- Parent Adjusted Available Income (PAAI);
- Parent Contribution (PC);
- Student Payroll Tax Allowance;
- Student Income Protection Allowance (IPA);
- Student Allowance for Parents' Negative Adjusted Available Income;
- Student Employment Expense Allowance (SEEA);
- Total Student Allowances Against Income;
- Student Available Income (StAI);
- Student Contribution from Income (SCI);
- Student Adjusted Available Income (SAAI);
- Total Student Contribution from SAAI;
- Student total income;
- Parent total income; and
- FISAP total income.

Slide 12 © 2026 NASFAA

12

Contributors

Independent Student

- Married Filing Jointly: Only student is contributor
- Married but filed separately: Both student and spouse are contributors

Dependent Student

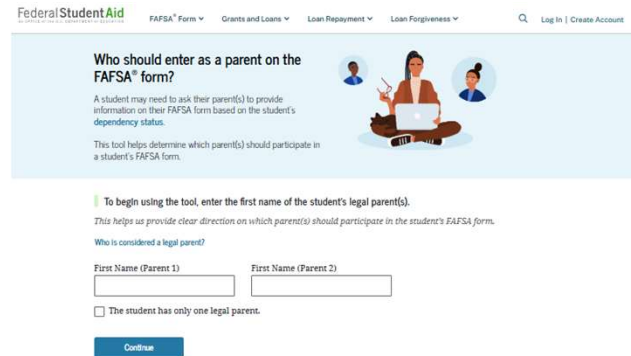
- Parents filed Married Filing Jointly: Only one parent contributor needed
- Parents married and filed separately: Both parents are contributors
- Parents unmarried and living together: Both parents are contributors

Slide 13 © 2026 NASFAA

13

Parent Contributor

- Family must determine which parent provided the most financial support for the 12-month period prior to filing
- Self reported and no requirement for school to review or confirm



The screenshot shows the 'Who should enter as a parent on the FAFSA form?' tool. It includes a header with navigation links: Federal Student Aid, FAFSA Form, Grants and Loans, Loan Repayment, and Loan Forgiveness. The main heading is 'Who should enter as a parent on the FAFSA form?'. Below this, it states: 'A student may need to ask their parent(s) to provide information on their FAFSA form based on the student's dependency status. This tool helps determine which parent(s) should participate in a student's FAFSA form.' There is an illustration of a person sitting at a desk with a laptop. Below the illustration, it says: 'To begin using the tool, enter the first name of the student's legal parent(s). This helps us provide clear direction on which parent(s) should participate in the student's FAFSA form.' The question 'Who is considered a legal parent?' is followed by two input fields: 'First Name (Parent 1)' and 'First Name (Parent 2)'. There is a checkbox labeled 'The student has only one legal parent.' and a 'Continue' button.

<https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-apply/parents>

Slide 14 © 2026 NASFAA

14

Parent Contributor

Parent Marital Status	Provide Information For
Never Married, Divorced, or Separated	The parent who provided more financial support during the last 12 months. If equal amount of support provided, provide information for parent with greater income and assets.
Unmarried and both legal parents live together	Both legal parents
Married	Both legal parents
Remarried (after being widowed or divorced)	Parent and stepparent
Widowed	Surviving parent

Adapted from <https://studentaid.gov/help/who-is-parent>

Slide 15 © 2026 NASFAA

15



Slide 16 © 2026 NASFAA

Foreign Income Exclusion

- Questions 20 and 38
- Foreign income exclusion added to adjusted gross income
- Used for Pell Grant determination

Slide 17 © 2026 NASFAA

© 2026 NASFAA

Family Business, Farm, or Fishery

Student Assets

Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts
Don't include cash amounts under \$1,000. Also don't include student aid, retirement accounts, or investments.

\$.00 ⓘ

Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate
Don't include retirement accounts or the home the student lives in. Net worth is the value of the investments minus any debts owed against them.

\$.00 ⓘ

Current Net Worth of Businesses and Farms
Enter the net worth of the student's businesses and income-producing farms. Net worth is the value of the businesses and farms minus any debts owed against them. Don't include a family business with 100 or fewer full-time employees, farms where the family resides, or a commercial fishing business and related expenses.

\$.00 ⓘ

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

- Questions 22 and 40
- Effective for 2026-27 going forward, items excluded from net worth:
 - Family-owned and controlled business with 100 or fewer full-time employees
 - Farm on which the family resides
 - Family-owned and controlled commercial fishing business

Slide 18 © 2026 NASFAA

18

Pell Grant Eligibility

- If SAI equal to or greater than twice the maximum Pell Grant amount, student is ineligible for Pell Grant
- Example:
 - Assume Max Pell = \$7,395
 - Max Pell x 2 = \$14,790
 - Student with SAI equal to or greater than \$14,790 is not Pell eligible
 - Does not apply to those who qualify for Pell under Special Rule

Slide 19 © 2026 NASFAA

19



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026



2027-28 FAFSA

Slide 20 © 2026 NASFAA

20



Poll Question

Have you completed a 2027-28 FAFSA?

- ☐ Yes, I was part of the Beta testing process.
- ☐ Yes, since it opened to the public.
- ☐ No, but I plan to do so.
- ☐ No, and I have no plan to do so.

Slide 21 © 2026 NASFAA

21

2027-28 FAFSA

- Beta testing phase I: August 5
- Beta testing phase II: August 24
- Official launch: September 23 (earliest ever!)

Beta testing allows ED to:

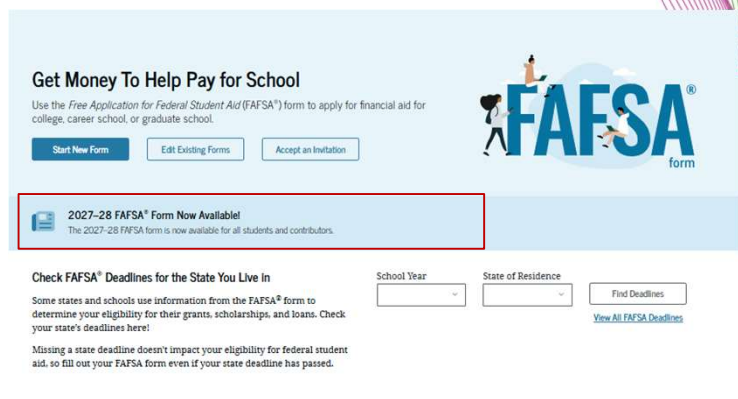
- ✓ Test online and paper submissions
- ✓ Validate that ISIRs are delivered to schools with accurate data
- ✓ Address user feedback
- ✓ Address critical issues that arise during testing

Slide 23 © 2026 NASFAA

23

Filing the FAFSA

- Online FAFSA
- PDF FAFSA
- Incarcerated Student FAFSA



Get Money To Help Pay for School
Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

[Start New Form](#) [Edit Existing Forms](#) [Accept an Invitation](#)

2027-28 FAFSA® Form Now Available!
The 2027-28 FAFSA form is now available for all students and contributors.

Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live in
Some states and schools use information from the FAFSA® form to determine your eligibility for their grants, scholarships, and loans. Check your state's deadlines here!

Missing a state deadline doesn't impact your eligibility for federal student aid, so fill out your FAFSA form even if your state deadline has passed.

School Year: State of Residence: [Find Deadlines](#) [View All FAFSA Deadlines](#)

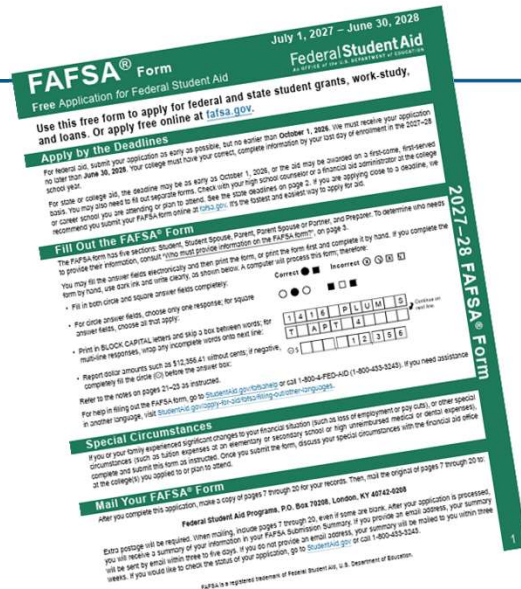
<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa>

Slide 24 © 2026 NASFAA

24

Filing the FAFSA

- Online FAFSA
- PDF FAFSA
- Incarcerated Student FAFSA



The image shows the cover page of the 2027-28 FAFSA Form. It is titled 'FAFSA Form' and 'Federal Student Aid'. The form is for the academic year July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028. It is a 'Free Application for Federal Student Aid'. The form is used to apply for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans. It is available online at fafsa.gov. The form is also available in Spanish and Chinese. The form is titled '2027-28 FAFSA Form'.

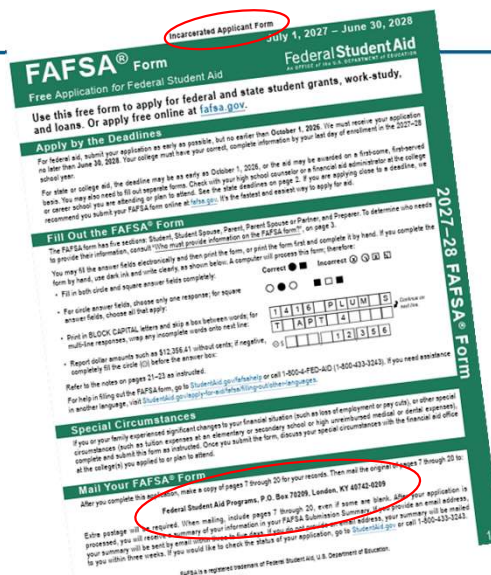
<https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/2027-28-fafsa-form.pdf>

Slide 25 © 2026 NASFAA

25

Incarcerated Student FAFSA

- Incarcerated applicant and contributor
- PDF FAFSA
- Incarcerated applicant flag triggers a paper FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS) to be mailed, not emailed



The image shows the cover page of the 2027-28 FAFSA Form. It is titled 'FAFSA Form' and 'Federal Student Aid'. The form is for the academic year July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028. It is a 'Free Application for Federal Student Aid'. The form is used to apply for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans. It is available online at fafsa.gov. The form is also available in Spanish and Chinese. The form is titled '2027-28 FAFSA Form'. A red circle highlights the text 'Incarcerated Applicant Form' on the form.

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/topics/prison-education-programs>

Slide 26 © 2026 NASFAA

26

FAFSA Filers Under 13 Years Old

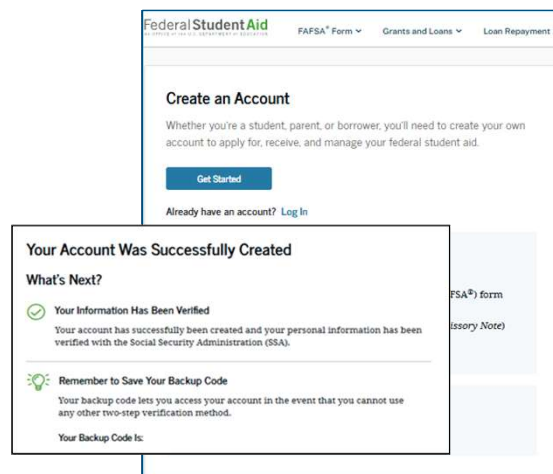
- FAFSA filers under age 13 may not use online FAFSA
 - Electronic communication with children younger than 13 is prohibited under the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) of 1998
- The applicant's parent or legal guardian should complete, sign, and mail the paper application to the designated address
- COPPA compliance measures
 - Applicants under 13 cannot obtain a StudentAid.gov account
 - Applicants should **not** provide an email address
 - The student will receive a paper FSS
- February 5, 2024 Electronic Announcement (APP-24-02) *Revised Special Handling Process for FAFSA Filers Under the Age of 13*

Slide 27 © 2026 NASFAA

27

StudentAid.gov Account Process

- Real-time identity verification for those with Social Security Number
- No need to wait for confirmation
- Once verified, immediately available for importing tax information



Federal StudentAid FAFSA® Form Grants and Loans Loan Repayment

Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to apply for, receive, and manage your federal student aid.

[Get Started](#)

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

Your Account Was Successfully Created

What's Next?

✓ **Your Information Has Been Verified**
Your account has successfully been created and your personal information has been verified with the Social Security Administration (SSA).

💡 **Remember to Save Your Backup Code**
Your backup code lets you access your account in the event that you cannot use any other two-step verification method.

Your Backup Code is:

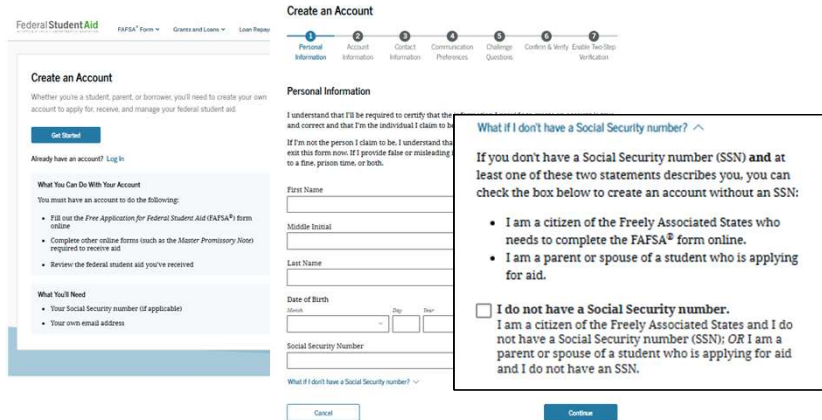
[FSA® form](#)
[Issuery Note](#)

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

Slide 28 © 2026 NASFAA

28

StudentAid.gov Account Without SSN



- Personal information
- Account information
- Contact information
- Communication preferences
- Challenge questions
- Confirm and verify

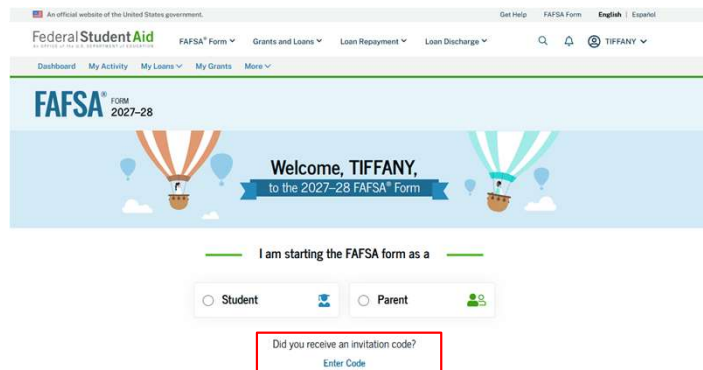
https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/FSA_ID_without_SSN.pdf and
https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Spanish_FSA_ID_without_SSN.pdf

Slide 29 © 2026 NASFAA

29

Contributor Invitation Process

- Student or parent can begin process
- Asked to identify their role
- Invitation code
- Link in email



Slide 30 © 2026 NASFAA

30

Contributor Invitation Process



FAFSA Form 2027-28 Student Raya Tran

Invite a Parent as a Contributor

A contributor is anyone who's required to provide information on your FAFSA form. In this section, you must invite a legal parent. A legal parent is a biological or adoptive parent as determined by the state.

So, keep in mind the following:

- If your stepparent or legal guardian has legally adopted you, you can invite them to your form.
- If your legal parent is married to someone who hasn't legally adopted you, don't invite them to your form. When your legal parent fills out their section, they will invite them to your form if needed.

Who should I invite as a parent on the FAFSA form?

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

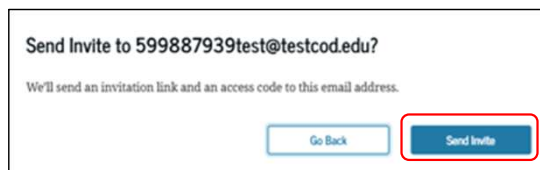
- First page of "Invite a Parent as a Contributor" section
- Provides an overview of the section
 - Identifies parent contributor as a legal parent, either biological, adoptive
 - Notes that stepparents and other guardians are not legal parent unless they have legally adopted the student

Slide 31 © 2026 NASFAA

31

Contributor Invitation Process

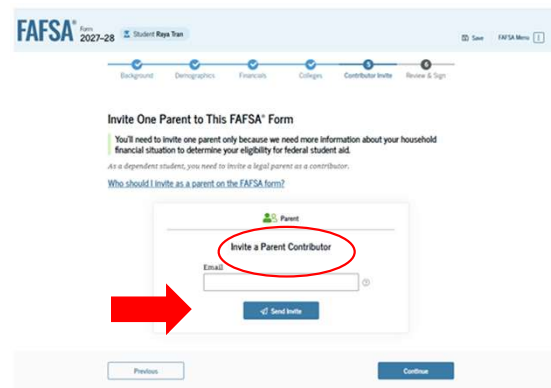
- Student provides parent's email address
- Selects "Send Invite"
- Pop-up window appears asking to confirm email address



Send Invite to 599887939test@testcod.edu?

We'll send an invitation link and an access code to this email address.

[Go Back](#) [Send Invite](#)



FAFSA Form 2027-28 Student Raya Tran

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Invite One Parent to This FAFSA Form

You'll need to invite one parent only because we need more information about your household financial situation to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.

As a dependent student, you need to invite a legal parent as a contributor.

Who should I invite as a parent on the FAFSA form?

[Parent](#)

Invite a Parent Contributor

Email

[Send Invite](#)

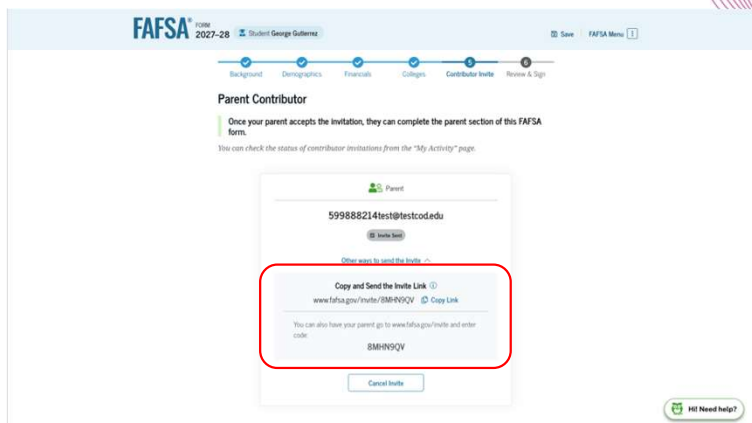
[Previous](#) [Continue](#)

Slide 32 © 2026 NASFAA

32

Contributor Invitation Process

- After email is sent, student receives confirmation
- Student given invitation link and code

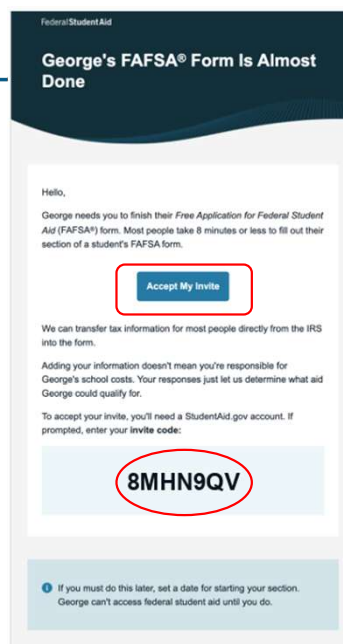


Slide 33 © 2026 NASFAA

33

Contributor Invitation Process

- Invitation received via email
- Contributor chooses "Accept My Invite" and is taken to StudentAid.gov

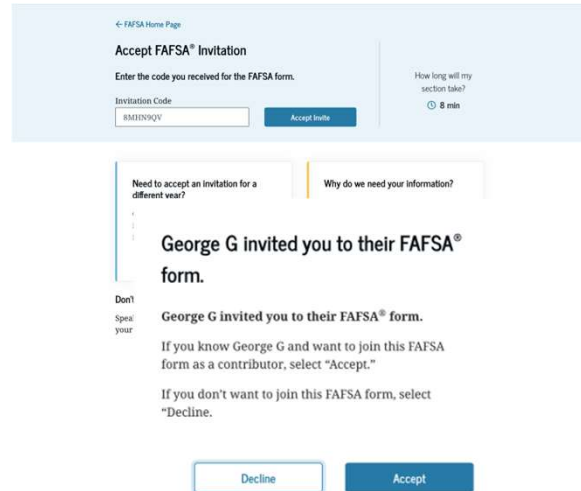


Slide 34 © 2026 NASFAA

34

Contributor Invitation Process

- After logging in, contributor is taken to "Accept 2027-28 FAFSA Invitation" page
- Invitation code from email fills in text box if link from email was used

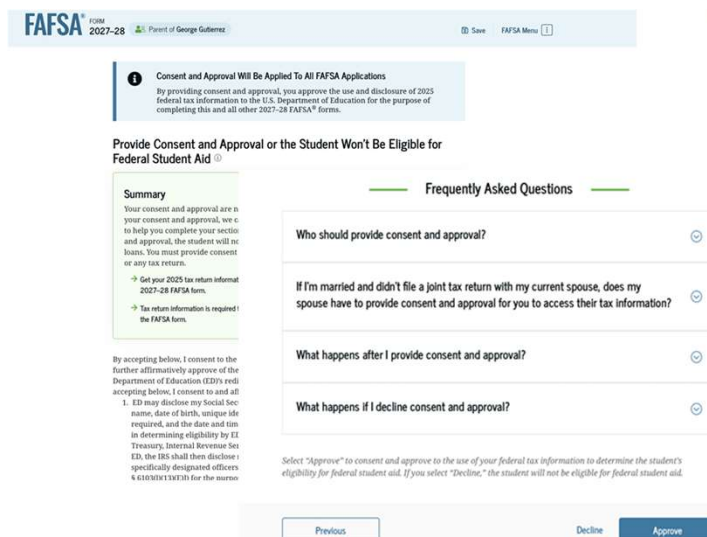


Slide 35 © 2026 NASFAA

35

Contributor Invitation Process

- Contributor reviews consent and approves or declines

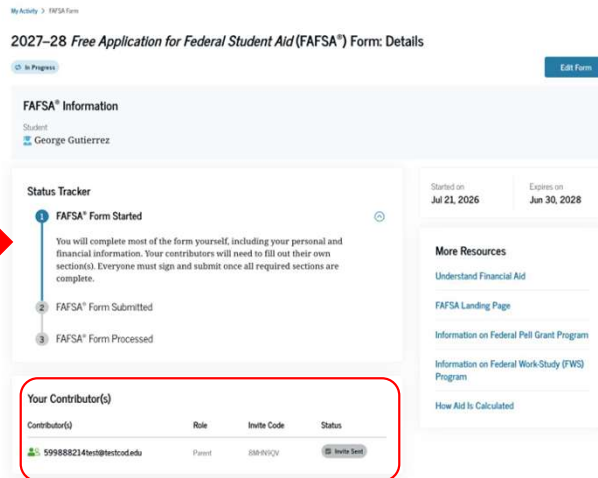


Slide 36 © 2026 NASFAA

36

Managing Contributors

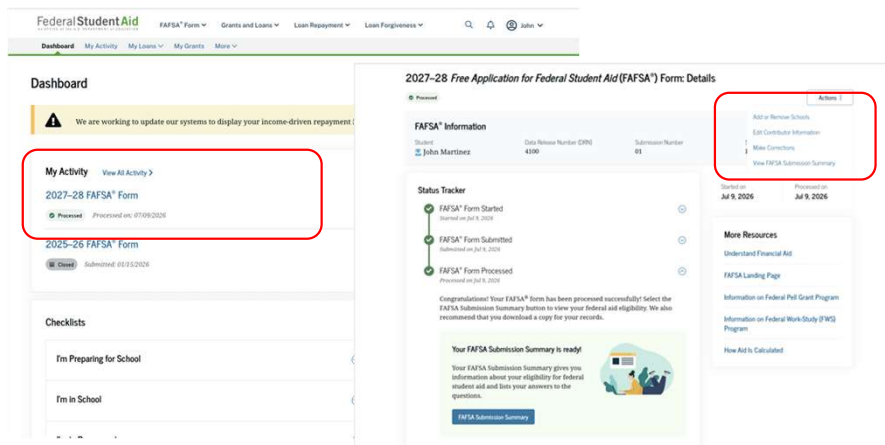
- Student's dashboard contains status tracker and contributor information including status of contributor

Slide 37 © 2026 NASFAA

37

Managing Contributors

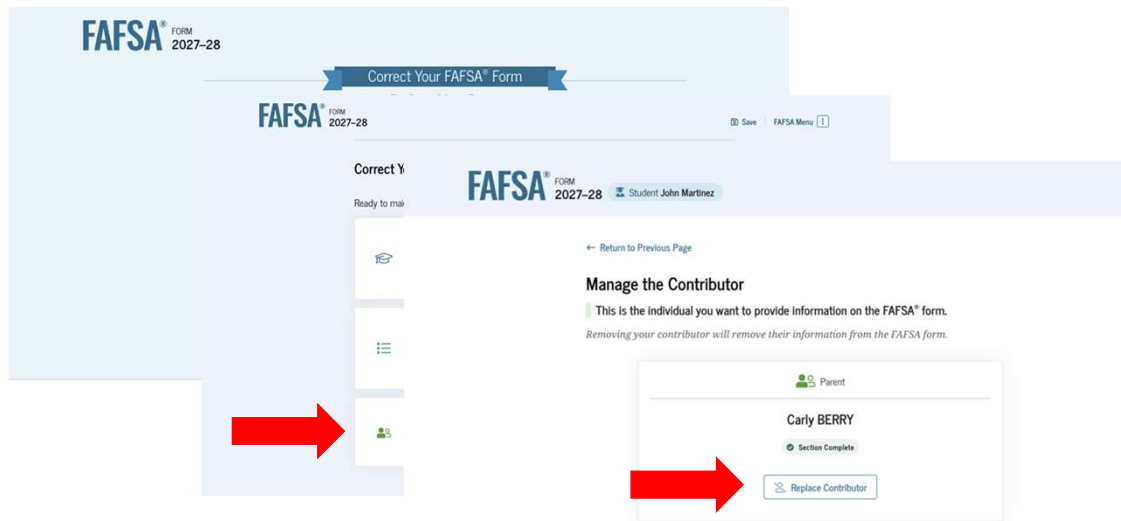


- Log into StudentAid.gov
- Select application
- Details page
 - Action menu
 - Edit Contributor Information

Slide 38 © 2026 NASFAA

38

Managing Contributors



FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28

Correct Your FAFSA[®] Form

FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28 Student John Martinez

Correct Your FAFSA[®] Form

Ready to make

Return to Previous Page

Manage the Contributor

This is the individual you want to provide information on the FAFSA[®] form.
Removing your contributor will remove their information from the FAFSA form.

Parent

Carly BERRY

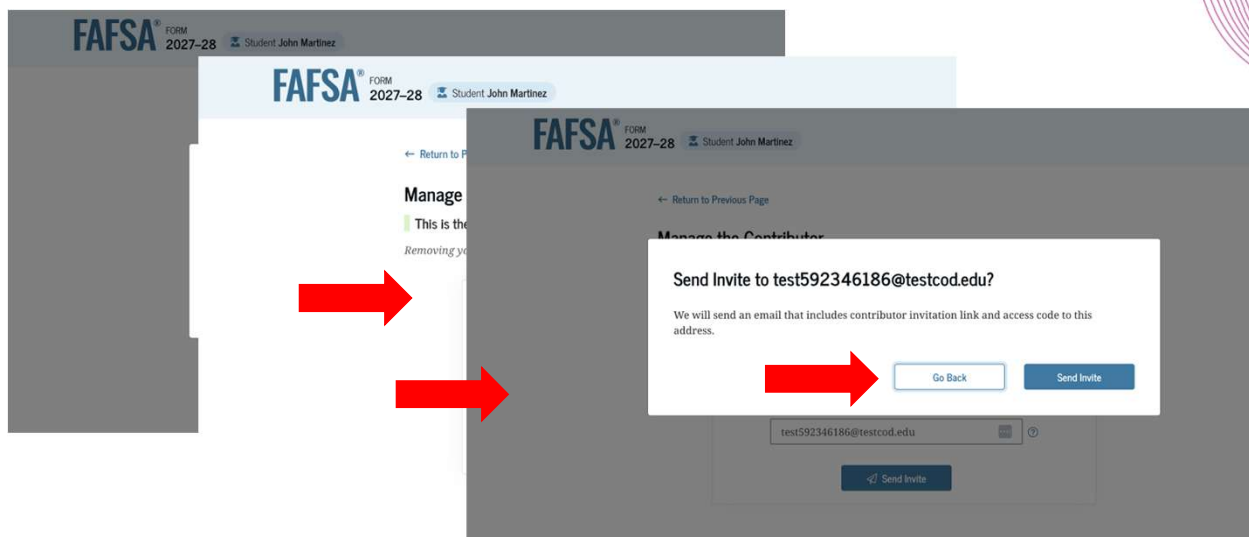
Section Complete

Replace Contributor

Slide 39 © 2026 NASFAA

39

Managing Contributors



FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28 Student John Martinez

FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28 Student John Martinez

Return to Previous Page

Manage the Contributor

This is the individual you want to provide information on the FAFSA[®] form.
Removing your contributor will remove their information from the FAFSA form.

Send Invite to test592346186@testcod.edu?

We will send an email that includes contributor invitation link and access code to this address.

Go Back Send Invite

test592346186@testcod.edu

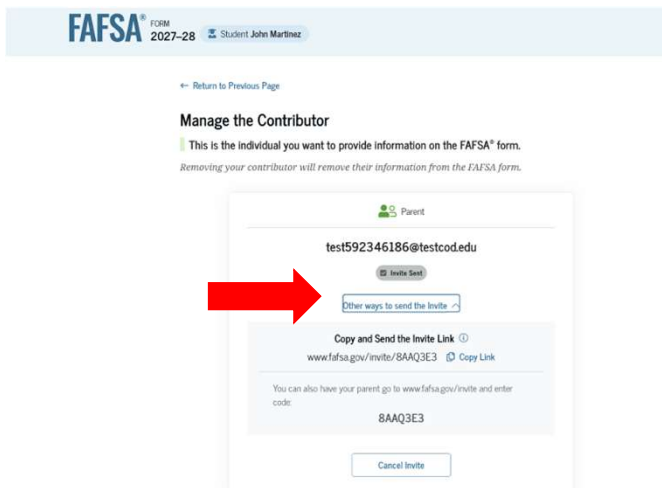
Send Invite

Slide 40 © 2026 NASFAA

40

Managing Contributors

- Student provides updated contact for contributor
- Any parent information in parental section is reset
- Parent must accept new invitation, provide consent, approval, and signature



FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28 Student John Martinez

← Return to Previous Page

Manage the Contributor

This is the individual you want to provide information on the FAFSA[®] form.
Removing your contributor will remove their information from the FAFSA form.

Parent

test592346186@testcod.edu

Invite Sent

Other ways to send the invite

Copy and Send the Invite Link

www.fafsa.gov/invite/8AAQ3E3 Copy Link

You can also have your parent go to www.fafsa.gov/invite and enter code:

8AAQ3E3

Cancel Invite

Slide 41 © 2026 NASFAA

41

Contributors on Multiple Applications

- Parents with multiple children applying for federal student aid can reuse their information across all applications instead of being required to reenter it for every child



<https://studentaid.gov/articles/fafsa-multiple-children/?ref=righden.ghost.io>

Slide 42 © 2026 NASFAA

42

Quick Quiz

A stepparent is a legal parent for FAFSA purposes.

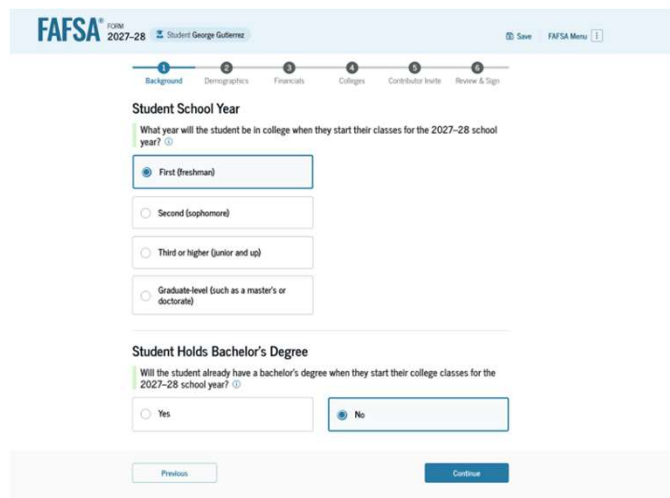
- ☐ True
- ☐ False
- ☐ I didn't know there would be a quiz!

Slide 43 © 2026 NASFAA

43

Student School Year

- Question 4
- Re-worded question to prevent application from misreporting grade level



FAFSA[®] FORM 2027-28 Student George Gutierrez Save FAFSA Menu 1

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Student School Year

What year will the student be in college when they start their classes for the 2027-28 school year? ⓘ

☒ First (freshman)

☐ Second (sophomore)

☐ Third or higher (junior and up)

☐ Graduate-level (such as a master's or doctorate)

Student Holds Bachelor's Degree

Will the student already have a bachelor's degree when they start their college classes for the 2027-28 school year? ⓘ

☐ Yes ☒ No

Previous Continue

Slide 45 © 2026 NASFAA

45

Background/Personal Circumstances

- Marital status
- Dependency status

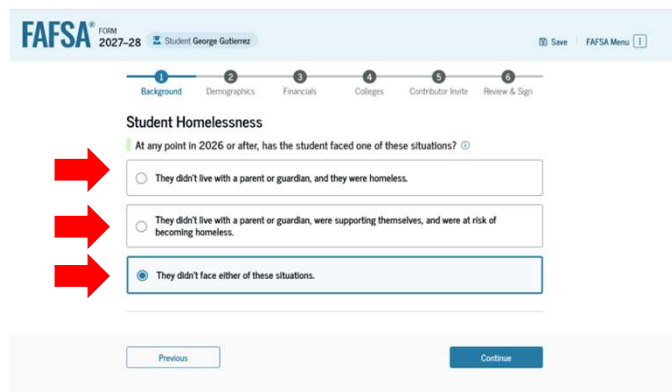


Slide 46 © 2026 NASFAA

46

Student Homelessness

- Question 6
- Re-worded question to make responses more descriptive

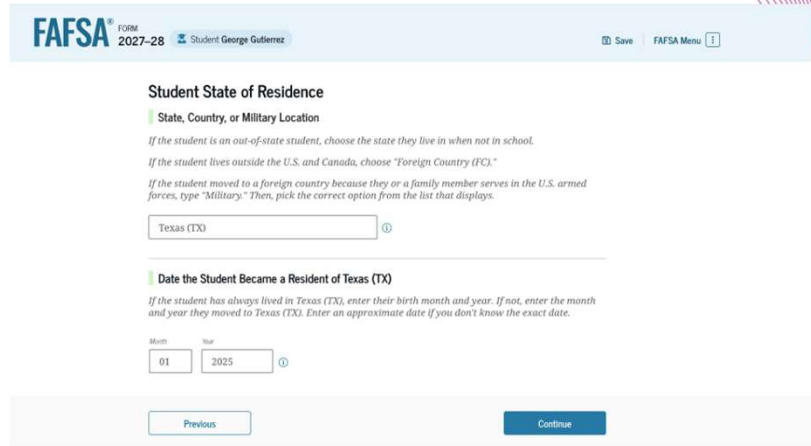


Slide 47 © 2026 NASFAA

47

State of Residence

- Questions 14 and 33
- The state of residence question was changed slightly
- Includes military location along with state or country of residence
- Instructions updated



FAFSA FORM 2027-28 Student George Gutierrez Save FAFSA Menu

Student State of Residence

State, Country, or Military Location

*If the student is an out-of-state student, choose the state they live in when not in school.
If the student lives outside the U.S. and Canada, choose "Foreign Country (FC)."
If the student moved to a foreign country because they or a family member serves in the U.S. armed forces, type "Military." Then, pick the correct option from the list that displays.*

Texas (TX) ⓘ

Date the Student Became a Resident of Texas (TX)

If the student has always lived in Texas (TX), enter their birth month and year. If not, enter the month and year they moved to Texas (TX). Enter an approximate date if you don't know the exact date.

Month: 01 Year: 2025 ⓘ

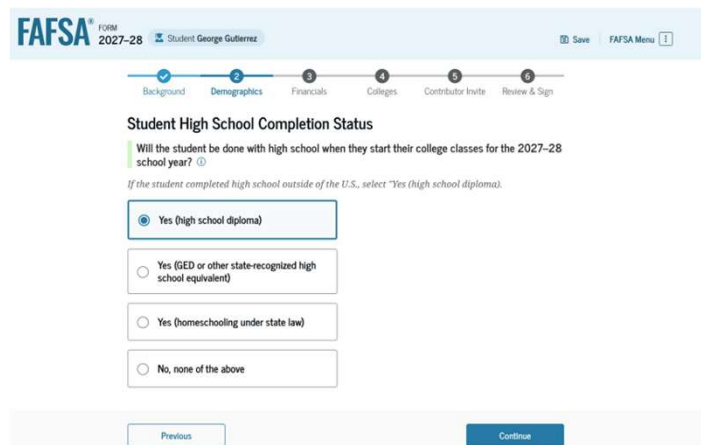
Previous Continue

Slide 48 © 2026 NASFAA

48

High School Completion

- Question 17
- Prompt for students who select "none of the above"
- Attempt to clarify and reduce errors



FAFSA FORM 2027-28 Student George Gutierrez Save FAFSA Menu

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Student High School Completion Status

Will the student be done with high school when they start their college classes for the 2027-28 school year? ⓘ

If the student completed high school outside of the U.S., select "Yes (high school diploma)."

☒ Yes (high school diploma)

☐ Yes (GED or other state-recognized high school equivalent)

☐ Yes (homeschooling under state law)

☐ No, none of the above

Previous Continue

Slide 49 © 2026 NASFAA

49

Tax Filing Status

- Questions 19 and 37
- Clarified if tax filer filed income tax return from Puerto Rico or other U.S. territory, they should complete the "Combined adjusted gross income" and "Combined income tax paid" fields in Q20
- Added additional explanation for a "no" answer to identify which situation applied for 2025

19 Student Tax Filing Status [See Notes page 22.]

Did the student file a U.S. federal income tax return for 2025 (or will they)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
The federal income tax form is called IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR.

Did the student file a 2025 income tax return from Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory (or will they)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If the answer is "Yes" to both this and the previous question, fill out the "Combined adjusted gross income" and "Combined income tax paid" fields in question 20.

If the answer is "No" to the previous two questions, which situation below applies for 2025?

☐ The student earned income in a foreign country. ☐ The student worked for an international organization and wasn't required to report that income on any tax return. (International organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.) ☐ Neither situation applies.

► If the student (1) is not married; (2) did not file a U.S. federal income tax return or an income tax return from Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory for 2025; and (3) answered "Neither situation applies," questions 20–22 can be skipped; however, if the student is also required to provide parent information on the form, question 22 must be answered.

37 Parent Tax Filing Status [See Notes page 22.]

Did the parent file a U.S. federal income tax return for 2025 (or will they)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
The U.S. federal income tax form is called IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR.

Did the parent file a 2025 tax return from Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory (or will they)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If the answer is "Yes" to both this and the previous question, fill out the "Combined adjusted gross income" and "Combined income tax paid" fields in question 38.

If the parent didn't file a U.S. federal tax return for 2025, select the reason why:

☐ They filed or will file a tax return in a country other than the United States. ☐ They worked for an international organization and weren't required to report that income on any tax return. (International organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.)

☐ They weren't required to file a U.S. federal tax return because their income was lower than the IRS filing threshold. ☐ They didn't and won't file a U.S. tax return for a different reason than low income.

☐ They earned income in a foreign country but will not file a foreign tax return.

Did the parent file their 2025 tax return jointly with their current spouse (or will they)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Slide 50 © 2026 NASFAA

50

Assets

- Questions 22 and 40
- Updated text to clarify what an applicant should report
- No need to count and report cash on hand under \$1,000

22 Student Assets [See Notes page 23.]

If the answer to question 3 was "Married" or "Remarried," enter the combined amounts held by the student and their spouse. If the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0. Net worth is the value of the investments, businesses, or farms minus any debts owed against them.

Current total of cash, savings, and checking accounts
 \$

Don't include cash amounts under \$1,000. Also don't include student aid, retirement accounts, or investments.

Current net worth of investments, including real estate
 \$

Don't include the home the student lives in or retirement accounts.

Current net worth of businesses and farms
 \$

Don't include a family business with 100 or fewer full-time employees, farms where the family resides, or a commercial fishing business and related expenses.

40 Parent Assets [See Notes page 23.]

If the answer to question 32 was "Married," "Remarried," or "Unmarried and both legal parents living together," enter the combined amounts held by the parent and their spouse or partner. If the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0. Net worth is the value of the investments, businesses, or farms minus any debts owed against them.

Current total of cash, savings, and checking accounts
 \$

Don't include cash amounts under \$1,000. Also don't include student aid, retirement accounts, or investments.

Current net worth of investments, including real estate
 \$

Don't include the home the parent lives in or retirement accounts.

Current net worth of businesses and farms
 \$

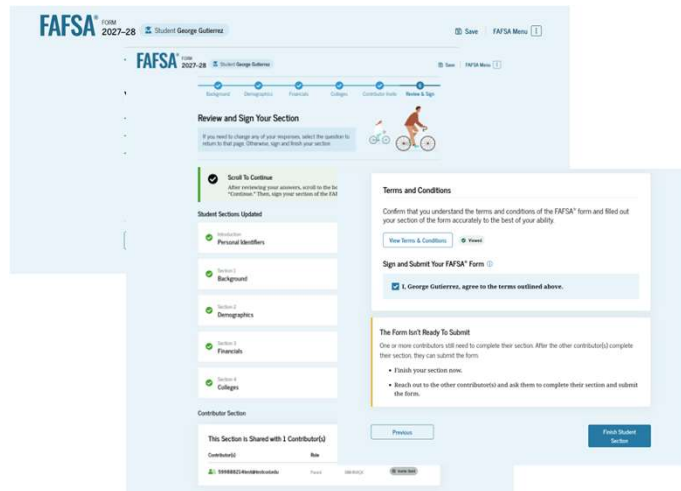
Don't include a family business with 100 or fewer full-time employees, farms where the family resides, or a commercial fishing business and related expenses.

Slide 51 © 2026 NASFAA

51

Signature

- Signature section renamed "Review & Sign"
- Compresses final review and signature steps into a single page

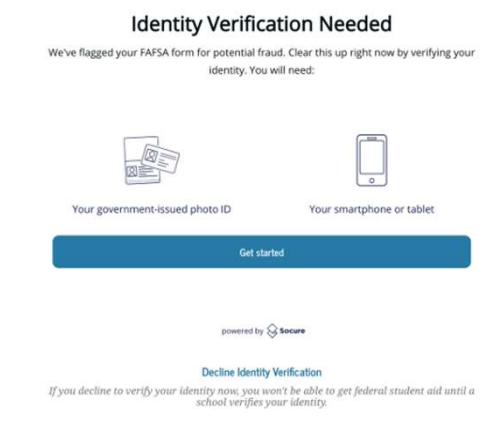


Slide 52 © 2026 NASFAA

52

FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection

- EA APP-26-03
- Implemented 2026
- Some applicants asked to complete automated identity verification process



Slide 53 © 2026 NASFAA

53

FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection

- EA APP-26-03
- Implemented 2026
- Some applicants asked to complete automated identity verification process

Low
No reject
No Comment Code

Moderate
No reject
Comment Code 353

High
Required to complete additional identity confirmation
Reject code dependent on outcome

Highest
Not given option to complete identity confirmation
Reject Code 75

Slide 54 © 2026 NASFAA

54

FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection

- EA APP-26-03
- Implemented 2026
- Some applicants asked to complete automated identity verification process

Identity Verification Needed

We've flagged your FAFSA form for potential fraud. Clear this up right now by verifying your identity. You will need:



Your government-issued photo ID



Your smartphone or tablet

Get started

powered by  Secure

Decline Identity Verification

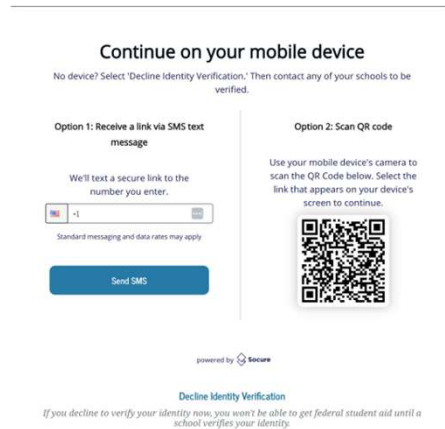
If you decline to verify your identity now, you won't be able to get federal student aid until a school verifies your identity.

Slide 55 © 2026 NASFAA

55

FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection

- EA APP-26-03
- Implemented 2026
- Some applicants asked to complete automated identity verification process



Continue on your mobile device

No device? Select "Decline Identity Verification". Then contact any of your schools to be verified.

Option 1: Receive a link via SMS text message

We'll text a secure link to the number you enter.

Standard messaging and data rates may apply

Send SMS

Option 2: Scan QR code

Use your mobile device's camera to scan the QR Code below. Select the link that appears on your device's screen to continue.



powered by **Socure**

Decline Identity Verification

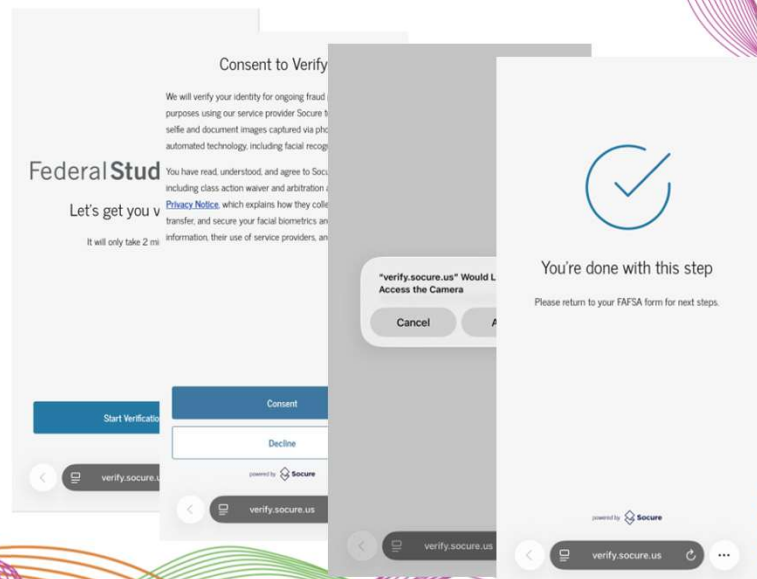
If you decline to verify your identity now, you won't be able to get federal student aid until a school verifies your identity.

Slide 56 © 2026 NASFAA

56

FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection

- EA APP-26-03
- Implemented 2026
- Some applicants asked to complete automated identity verification process



Consent to Verify

We will verify your identity for ongoing fraud purposes using our service provider Socure's selfie and document images captured via photo automated technology, including facial recognition.

Federal Student Aid

You have read, understood, and agree to Socure's [Privacy Notice](#), which explains how they collect, transfer, and secure your facial biometrics and information, their use of service providers, and

Let's get you verified. It will only take 2 minutes.

Start Verification

Consent

Decline

powered by **Socure**

"verify.socure.us" Would Like to Access the Camera

Cancel

You're done with this step

Please return to your FAFSA form for next steps.

powered by **Socure**

Slide 57 © 2026 NASFAA

57



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026

A large purple circle containing a white icon of a clipboard with a pencil, representing a checklist or survey.

Pulse Check

Which specific step are your students and families struggling with most on the 2027–2028 form?

- ☐ Obtaining or authenticating a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID)
- ☐ Consent and approval for the Direct Data Exchange
- ☐ Reporting assets correctly (small business or farm values for example)
- ☐ Completing non-SSN contributor verification
- ☐ I have no idea!

Slide 58 © 2026 NASFAA

58

A logo featuring a stylized 'W' with the word 'WEBINARS' in a banner across it.

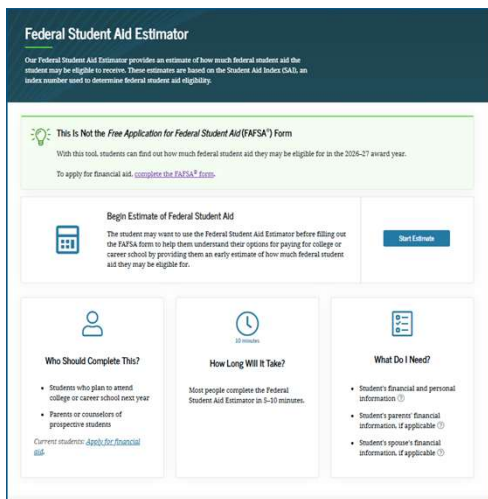
The NASFAA logo, which includes a stylized icon of two people and the text 'NASFAA' and 'NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS'.

FAFSA-Related Tools

Slide 60 © 2026 NASFAA

60

Federal Student Aid Estimator



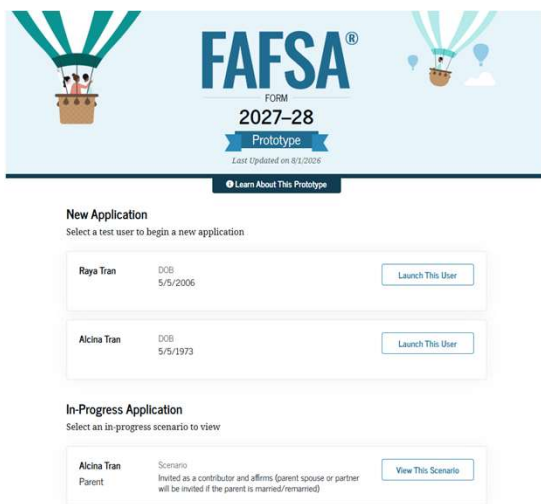
<https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator>

Slide 61 © 2026 NASFAA

- Designed for students who plan to enroll in next school year
- Provides estimate of how much federal aid a student could be eligible to receive
- Updated for 2027-28 award year
- Can be completed in 5-10 minutes

61

FAFSA Prototype



- Web-based tool to allow users to walk through specific scenarios
- Not full functionality
- No data stored
- Tooltips and help resources not available

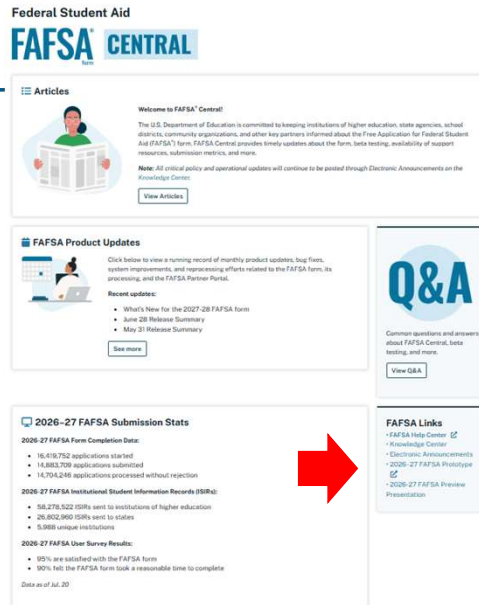
Access Prototype:
fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2728
Access Code: prototype2728

Slide 62 © 2026 NASFAA

62

FAFSA Central

- Webpage created to keep stakeholders up to date on FAFSA, application resources, statistics, etc.



<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsacentral>

Slide 63 © 2026 NASFAA

63

FAFSA Specifications Guide

- 1** Summary of Changes
Updates and enhancements
- 2** FPS Schedule and Getting Help
Deadlines, software release dates
- 3** EDE and FAFSA Processing
Overview of EDE, FPS data output files
- 4** Record Layouts and Processing Codes
ISIR Layout and Processing Codes
- 5** Edits and Rejects
Data edits for contributors, reject codes and resolution
- 6** ISIR Guide
Information reported on ISIR and FSS

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/handbooks-manuals-or-guides/2026-05-05/2027-28-fafsa-specifications-guide-july-2026-update-2>

Slide 64 © 2025 NASFAA

64



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026

FAFSA Specifications Guide

7

Comment Codes
Codes and action needed to resolve

8

Agency Matches
Codes from database matches with federal agencies

9

Testing and Web Demo System
ISIR test data

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/handbooks-manuals-or-guides/2026-05-05/2027-28-fafsa-specifications-guide-july-2026-update-2>

Slide 65 © 2025 NASFAA

65

2027-28 Student Aid Index and Pell Grant Eligibility Guide

- Tables used in SAI calculation
- SAI formula worksheets
 - Formula A—Dependent students
 - Formula B—Independent students without dependents other than a spouse
 - Formula C—Independent students with dependents other than a spouse
- Pell Grant eligibility
 - Poverty guidelines
 - Maximum and minimum

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2026-06/2728StudentAidIndexSAIandPellGrantEligibilityGuide.pdf>

Slide 66 © 2026 NASFAA

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of FAFSA formula worksheets. The top-left sheet is 'Formula A – Dependent Students', showing 'Parent Contribution from Income' and 'Parent Income Additions'. The top-right sheet is 'Formula B – Independent Students Without Dependents Other than a Spouse', showing 'Student Contribution from Income'. The bottom sheet is 'Formula C – Independent Students with Dependents Other than a Spouse', showing 'Student Contribution from Income' and 'Student Income Additions'. Each sheet contains various line items for income, deductions, and allowances, with some cells highlighted in black or red to indicate specific data points or errors.

66

FAFSA Submission Summary Mock-Ups

- Electronic or paper document summarizing information reported on FAFSA
- Includes estimated eligibility for Pell Grant and federal student loans
- Includes SAI
- Indicates if selected for verification

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/application-processing/2026-10-06/2027-28-fafsa-submission-summary-mock-ups>

Slide 67 © 2026 NASFAA

67

Counselors and Mentors Handbook on Federal Student Aid

- Expected September 2026 release, pushed to October
- Not yet available

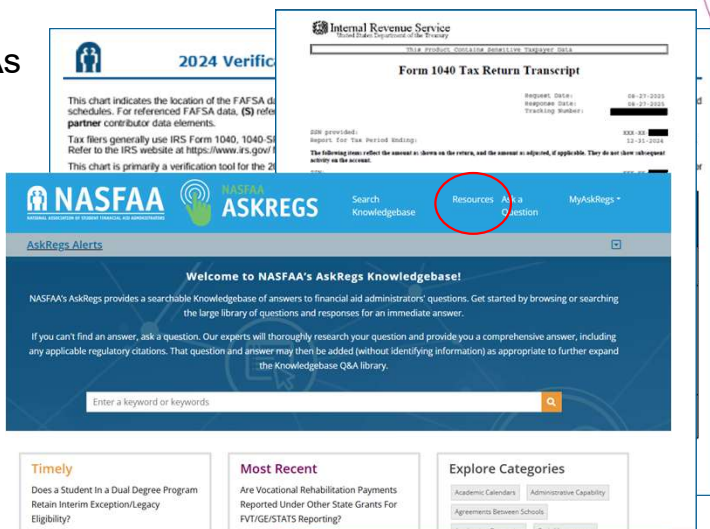
<https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/learn/fafsa/updates.jsp>

Slide 68 © 2026 NASFAA

68

2025 Verification Data and Federal Tax Forms Comparison

- Available as resource to FAAs
- Primarily verification tool
 - Tax Return Transcript added to Comparison tool
 - Easier to find applicable line items on Transcript and 1040



Slide 69 © 2026 NASFAA

69

IRS Publication 17

- Provides most tax-related information aid administrators need to access
 - Filing status
 - Who is required to file



Your Federal Income Tax
For Individuals

Publication 17
For use in preparing
2025 Returns

Table 1-1. 2025 Filing Requirements for Most Taxpayers

IF your filing status is...	AND at the end of 2025 you were...*	THEN file a return if your gross income was at least...**
Single	under 65	\$15,750
	65 or older	\$17,750
Married filing jointly***	under 65 (both spouses)	\$31,500
	65 or older (one spouse)	\$33,100
	65 or older (both spouses)	\$34,700
Married filing separately	any age	\$5
Head of household	under 65	\$23,625
	65 or older	\$25,625
Qualifying surviving spouse	under 65	\$31,500
	65 or older	\$33,100

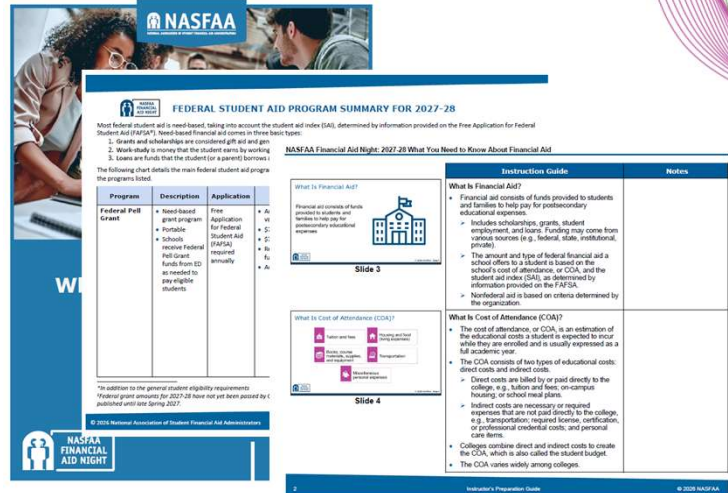
<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p17.pdf>

Slide 70 © 2026 NASFAA

70

NASFAA's Financial Aid Night

- Updated annually
- Prepared to let user easily deliver financial aid presentation
- Written for high school students and parents
- Available at no cost to NASFAA members



The image shows a preview of the NASFAA Financial Aid Night 2027-28 presentation. It includes a title slide, a slide titled 'FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAM SUMMARY FOR 2027-28' with a table of aid programs, and a slide titled 'What You Need to Know About Financial Aid' with an 'Instruction Guide' table.

Program	Description	Application
Federal Pell Grant	Need-based grant program	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Federal Direct Loan	Need-based loan program	FAFSA
Federal Work-Study	Need-based work program	FAFSA

Instruction Guide	Notes
What is Financial Aid? - Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses. - Includes scholarships, grants, student employment, and loans. Funding may come from various sources (e.g., federal, state, institutional, private). - The amount and type of federal financial aid a school offers to a student is based on the student's cost of attendance, or COA, and the student's financial need (determined by information provided on the FAFSA). - Nonfederal aid is based on criteria determined by the organization.	
What is Cost of Attendance (COA)? - The cost of attendance, or COA, is an estimation of the educational costs a student is expected to incur while they are enrolled and is usually expressed as a full academic year. - The COA consists of two types of educational costs: direct costs and indirect costs. - Direct costs are billed by or paid directly to the college, e.g., tuition and fees, on-campus housing, or school meal plans. - Indirect costs are necessary or required expenses that are not paid directly to the college, e.g., transportation, required books, certification, or professional credential costs, and personal care items. - Colleges combine direct and indirect costs to create the COA, which is also called the student budget. - The COA varies widely among colleges.	

https://www.nasfaa.org/Financial_Aid_Night_Presentation

Slide 71 © 2026 NASFAA

71

Pulse Check

When do you realistically expect your institution to begin sending out official 2027-28 financial aid notifications to incoming students?

- ☐ Late Fall 2026
- ☐ January – February 2027
- ☐ March – April 2027
- ☐ May 2027 or later
- ☐ I have no idea!

Slide 72 © 2026 NASFAA

72



NASFAA's Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Presented October 14, 2026

Q&A



Submit Your Questions



Download Your
Certificate of Attendance



Complete the Survey

Slide 74 © 2026 NASFAA

74



NASFAA Training & Events

Nowhere else can you get the **depth and breadth** of the professional development opportunities that NASFAA offers.

Every year, we provide a wide variety of **online, local, and national programs** for experienced, intermediate, and beginning financial aid officers.



Visit
nasfaa.org/training
to learn more!

75



NASFAA's Webinar
2027-28 FAFSA Update
Presented October 14, 2026



**Thank you for attending
today's NASFAA webinar!**

76



NASFAA Webinar 2027-28 FAFSA Update Resources

October 14, 2026

NASFAA Resources

- **NASFAA Financial Aid Night Materials** (available at no cost to all NASFAA members): https://www.nasfaa.org/Financial_Aid_Night_Presentation
- **NASFAA's How to Get an FSA ID for Individuals Without a Social Security Number:**
https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/FSA_ID_without_SSN.pdf (English)
https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Spanish_FSA_ID_without_SSN.pdf (Spanish)
- **NASFAA's AskRegs Knowledgebase:** Searchable knowledgebase of answers to financial aid administrator's questions: <https://askregs.nasfaa.org/Home/Index/Home>
- **NASFAA's Community Slack Channels, including FAFSA Simplification:**
<https://www.nasfaa.org/community>

U.S. Department of Education (ED)

- **Electronic Announcement (GENERAL-23-34) Access and use of Federal Tax Information (FTI) for Federal Student Aid Programs Beginning with the 2024-25 FAFSA Processing Cycle (Updated September 17, 2025):** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2023-05-12/access-and-use-federal-tax-information-fti-federal-student-aid-programs-beginning-2024-25-fafsa-processing-cycle-updated-september-17-2025>
- **Electronic Announcement (APP-26-03) FAFSA Real-Time Fraud Detection:**
<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2026-04-15/fafsa-real-time-fraud-detection-updated-aug-21-2026>
- **Electronic Announcement (APP-26-09) Real-Time FAFSA Fraud Detection and Identity Confirmation Frequently Asked Questions:** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2026-07-17/real-time-fafsa-fraud-detection-and-identity-confirmation-frequently-asked-questions-updated-sept-21-2026>
- **FAFSA Central:** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsacentral>
- **2027-28 FAFSA PDF:** <https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/2027-28-fafsa-form.pdf>
- **2027-28 FAFSA PDF (incarcerated students):** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/topics/prison-education-programs>
- **2027-28 FAFSA Preview Presentation:** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/application-processing/2026-09-03/2027-28-fafsa-preview-presentation>
- **2027-28 FAFSA Specifications Guide** (includes all FAFSA-related processing information and guidance into a multi-volume resource): <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/handbooks-manuals-or-guides/2026-05-05/2027-28-fafsa-specifications-guide-september-2026-update>

- **2027-28 FAFSA Submission Summary Mock-Up:** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/application-processing/2026-10-06/2027-28-fafsa-submission-summary-mock-ups>
- **2027-28 FAFSA Prototype:** <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/fafsa-prototype/2728>
Access Code: prototype2728
- **Federal Student Aid Estimator:** <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>
- **2027-28 Student Aid Index (SAI) and Pell Grant Eligibility Guide:**
<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2026-06/2728StudentAidIndexSAIandPellGrantEligibilityGuide.pdf>
- **FAFSA Parent Wizard:** <https://studentaid.gov/fafsa-apply/parents>
- **Infographic: Is My Parent a Contributor When I Fill Out My FAFSA Form?**
<https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/is-my-parent-a-contributor.jpg>
- **Federal Student Aid Financial Aid Toolkit:** <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/index.jsp>
- **Federal Student Aid Estimator** (updated to provide estimate of 2027-28 SAI and Pell Grant eligibility:
<https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>

Internal Revenue Service

- **IRS Publication 17:** <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-publication-17>

Other Sources to Share with Students and Families:

- **NASFAA FAFSA Tips and Common Mistakes to Avoid:** https://www.nasfaa.org/fafsa_tips
- **Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC):** 800-433-3243 or 334-523-2691 or online at <https://studentaid.gov/help-center/contact>

NOTES:

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 28 horizontal dashed lines.

NOTES:

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 28 horizontal dashed lines.

What's next?

Please join us for the 2026-27 NASFAA Webinar Series

Whether you're looking for regulatory updates, operational guidance or professional development, the 2026-27 webinar series offers timely programming to help you stay informed throughout the year.

NASFAA's live webinars bring you the latest information and allow you to actively engage with NASFAA staff, partner organizations, and fellow aid professionals.

All webinars begin at 2:00 p.m. ET, and last 60 to 90 minutes, unless otherwise noted. Archives are usually available after the webinar for purchase; these archives are also free to Value Plus Members and webinar package purchasers.

Webinar Schedule for 2026-27

Topic	Air Date
Satisfactory Academic Progress Spotlight	September 9, 2026
2027-28 FAFSA Update	October 14, 2026
Blue Icon Advisors, NASFAA Consulting: AI for Financial Aid Professionals: Exploring Real-World Applications*	October 27, 2026
Verification 2027-28 (Extended Edition)	November 18, 2026
Handle with Care: Understanding Data Types, Disclosure and Consent Under GEN-25-08	December 9, 2026
NASFAA Policy Update*	December 16, 2026
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: From Data to Determinations	January 20, 2027
U.S. Citizenship and Eligible Noncitizen Status Overview	February 3, 2027
Professional Development Panel: Maintaining Morale When Change Fatigue is Real	February 17, 2027
Summer Aid Issues	March 3, 2027
Blue Icon Advisors, NASFAA Consulting: Hot Topic*	March 16, 2027
Pell Grant Eligibility for Workforce Programs	March 31, 2027
Graduate and Professional Community Update*	April 14, 2027
R2T4 Spotlight: Bringing R2T4 Challenges Out of the Shadows and Into Focus	April 28, 2027
Institutional Accountability Under OB3: Implications for Gainful Employment	May 5, 2027
Annual Business Meeting & Policy Update*	May 19, 2027
Annual NASFAA Game Show	June 9, 2027

*Free to members, does not require purchase of the webinar package.



This listing is current as of June 2026.
 Additional webinars may be added throughout the year.
 Visit nasfaa.org/webinars for the latest schedule.

**The National Association of
Student Financial Aid
Administrators (NASFAA)
provides essential professional
development, information, and
services to financial aid
administrators; advocates for
public policies that increase
student access to and success
in postsecondary education;
and nurtures community and
belonging throughout the
financial aid profession.**

© 2026 National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

**1801 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, SUITE 602
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-3606
202.785.0453 FAX. 202.785.1487 WWW.NASFAA.ORG**