

FAFSA FUNDAMENTALS

2027-2028

Who We Are



Introduction to Financial Aid



Financial Aid = Money for College

There are four kinds of financial aid we want you to know about!

Grants

Need-based funds that you ordinarily don't have to repay.

Scholarships

Merit or criteria-based awards that you don't ordinarily have to repay.

Work Study

Part-time campus or community job to help cover expenses.

Student Loans

Borrowed funds that must be repaid with interest.



What is the FAFSA?

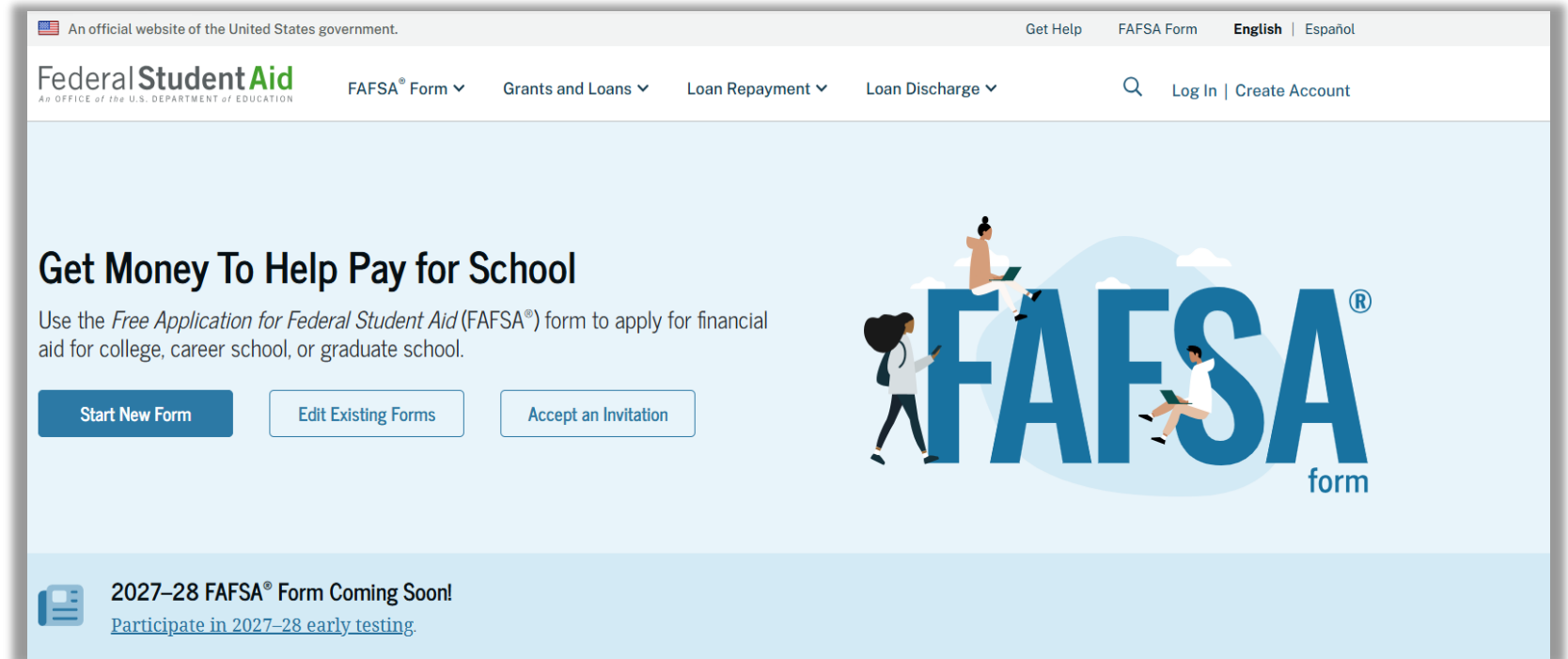
Facts about the FAFSA:

- Free Application for Federal Aid
- Available at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
- Snapshot of your family's financial situation
- Helps determine your eligibility for federal and state aid

FAFSA.gov

Always free

Open now



Steps to Complete the FAFSA

1. Create a StudentAid.gov account for everyone who needs to contribute to the FAFSA – the student and contributors
2. Student begins the 2027-2028 FAFSA application at FAFSA.gov
3. After the student submits their part of the FAFSA and invites their parent to complete the parent section, the parent checks email for a code and follows the link. The parent then creates a StudentAid.gov account or logs in. They accept the invitation from the student, complete the parent section, and sign and submit the FAFSA.
4. Watch for the FAFSA Submission Summary to be sent to student via email to confirm correct completion.

StudentAid.gov Account



What is a StudentAid.gov Account?

- Your electronic signature on the FAFSA and student loan applications
- Username and Password
 - Once created, it can be used each year to renew your FAFSA and manage and track your Federal student loans.
- Parents will also be able to reuse their account info each year for:
 - All dependents' FAFSAs
 - Their own FAFSA and student loans



Who needs a StudentAid.gov Account?



You, the student, need a StudentAid.gov account.



If you're a dependent student, one or both parents will need their own StudentAid.gov account.

Which parent?

If parents are married:

If married, filing jointly in 2025, and still married to each other, only one parent needs to create an account.

If they filed separately in 2025 for any reason, both parents will need an account of their own. Examples:

- Married, filing separately
- Not married, but living together
- Different spouse



Which parent? If parents are divorced or separated:

The parent who has provided the most financial support to the student in the last 12 months will be the one to contribute their information.

If that parent has remarried, the parent and step-parent must contribute information.

There is a FAFSA tool available to help you decide which parent needs to provide information on the FAFSA:

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

Dependency Status

UCanGo2.org FAFSA Dependency Publications:

Who Needs a StudentAid.gov Account?

What's Your FAFSA Dependency Status?

FAFSA

UCanGo2[®]

startwithfafsa.org

WHO NEEDS A STUDENTAID.GOV ACCOUNT?

For Dependent Students | 2027-28 FAFSA

StudentAid.gov accounts are required for students and parents determine who needs an account as you advance through the process who needs to create an account ahead of time.

StudentAid.gov accounts should be created before starting the selecting **Create Account**.

START HERE!

Are you the student?

NO

Are you a dependent?

YES

Every student needs a StudentAid.gov account!

What is the current legal parent?

Unmarried and both legal parents living together
Married (not separated)
Remarried

What was the tax filing status of the legal parent in 2025?

Married, filing jointly

Only one parent will need a StudentAid.gov account to consent to the transfer of 2025 IRS information.

Married, filing separately
Single
Head of household

Both parents will need StudentAid.gov accounts to consent to the transfer of 2025 IRS information.

Use UCanGo2's StudentAid.gov Worksheet to keep a record of Spanish at [UCanGo2.org](https://ucango2.org).

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, or marital status in admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is located at the following website: www.okcollegestart.org. This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes. This publication was produced in July 2025.

FAFSA

UCanGo2[®]

startwithfafsa.org

2027-28: WHAT'S YOUR FAFSA DEPENDENCY STATUS?

Answer "yes" or "no" to these questions to determine if you'll need to provide your parents' information on the FAFSA.

	YES	NO
1. Were you born before January 1, 2004?	___	___
2. On the day you submit your FAFSA, are you married?	___	___
3. At the beginning of the 2027-28 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an M.A., M.B.A., M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)?	___	___
4. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training (If you are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee, are you on active duty for other than state or training purposes?)?	___	___
5. Are you a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?*	___	___
6. Do you have children or other people (excluding a spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and between July 1, 2027 and June 30, 2028?	___	___
7. At any time since you turned age 13, were you an orphan (no living or adoptive biological parent), were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?	___	___
8. As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you a legally emancipated minor?	___	___
9. Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?	___	___
10. At any time on or after July 1, 2026, were you unaccompanied and either 1) homeless or 2) self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?	___	___

*Answer "No" (you are not a veteran) if you (1) have never engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, (2) are currently an ROTC student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy, (3) a National Guard or Reserves enlistee activated only for state or training purposes, or (4) were engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces but released under dishonorable conditions. Also answer "No" if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and will continue to serve through June 30, 2027.

Answer "Yes" (you are a veteran) if you (1) have engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard) or are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies and (2) were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Also answer "Yes" if you are not a veteran now but will be one by June 30, 2027.

► If you answered YES to one or more of these questions, you are considered an **INDEPENDENT STUDENT** on the FAFSA.

► You will **NOT** need to provide your parents' information when completing your FAFSA application.

► Contact the college or university you plan to attend for more information about your dependency status.

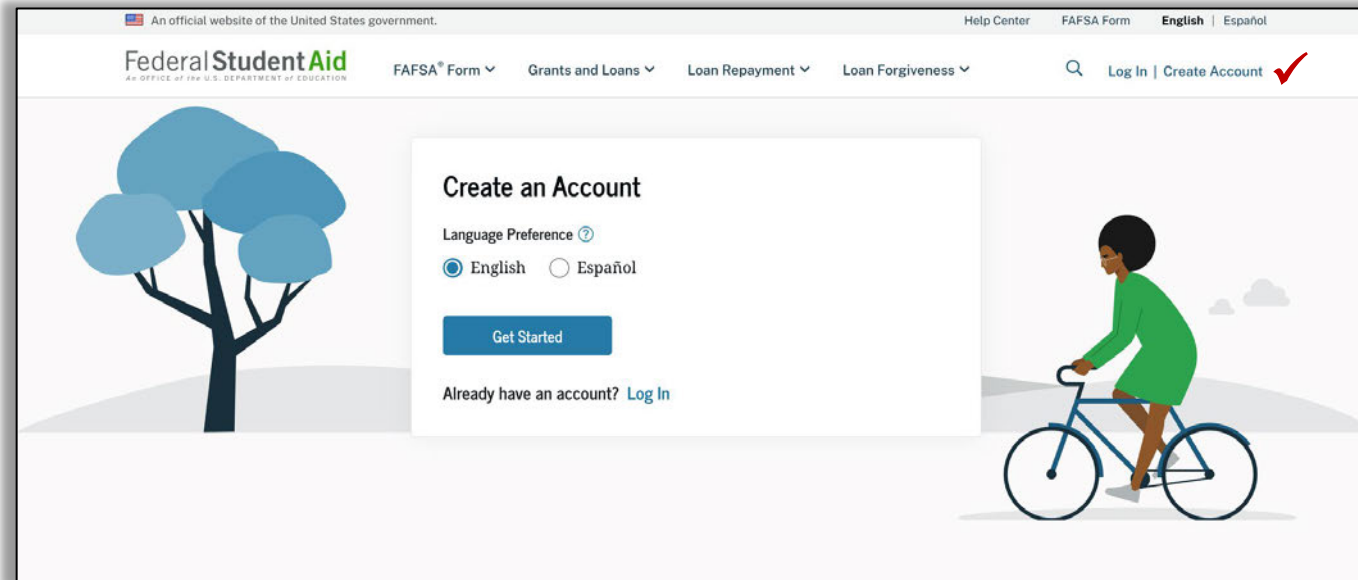
Applicants who indicate on their FAFSA form that they have unusual circumstances and are unable to contact a parent or that contact with a parent poses a risk to the student, will be granted provisional independent status. A student may be experiencing unusual circumstances if they:

- Left home due to an abusive or threatening environment;
- Are abandoned by or estranged from their parents;
- Have refugee or asylee status and are separated from their parents, or their parents are displaced in a foreign country;
- Are a victim of human trafficking;
- Are incarcerated, or their parents are incarcerated, and contact with the parents would pose a risk to the student; or
- Are otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3206, and is located at the following website: www.okcollegestart.org. This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes. This publication was produced in July 2025.

Create your StudentAid.gov Account

Visit StudentAid.gov and choose **Create Account**

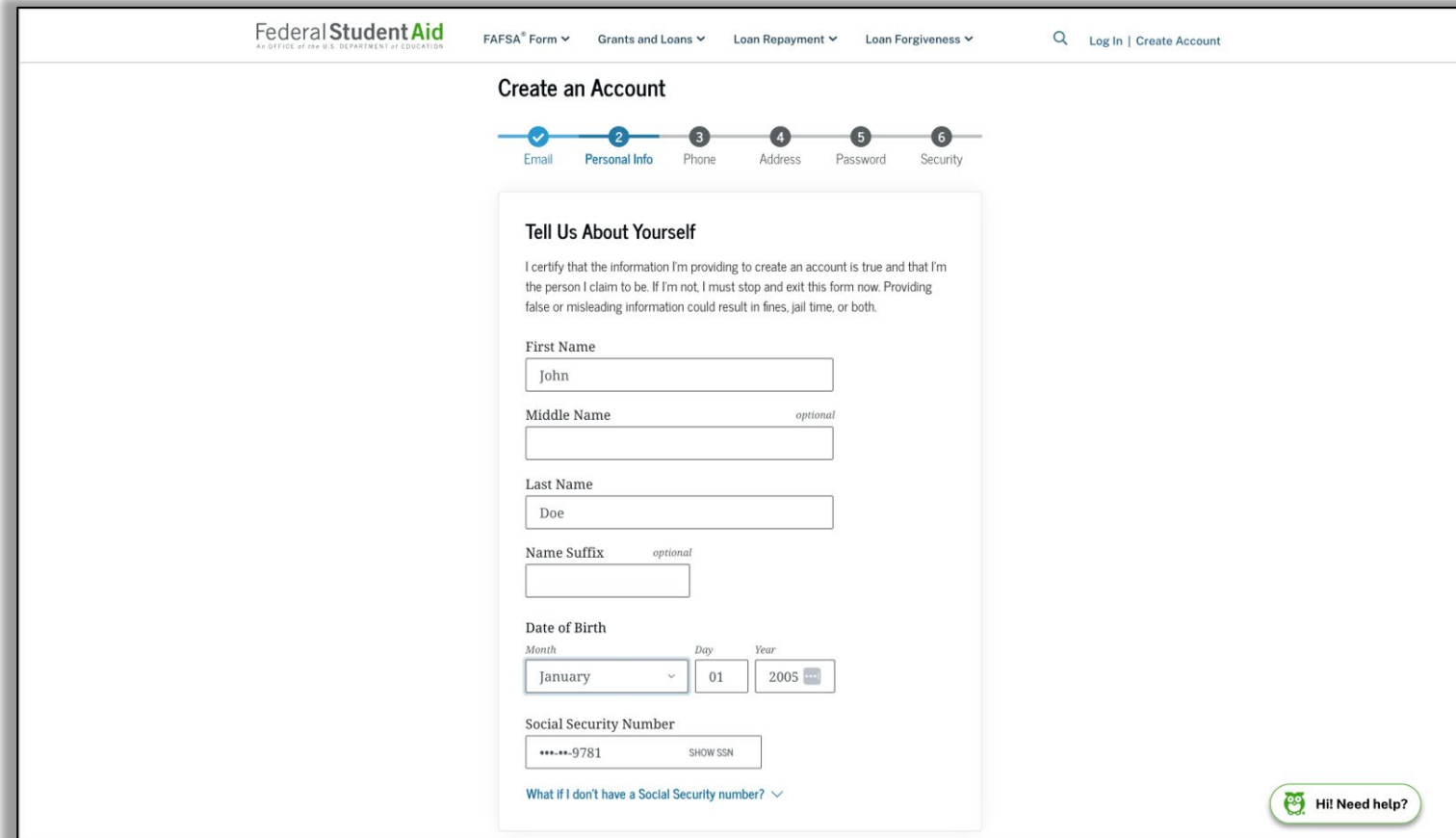


StudentAid.gov Account Tips

Use your personal email account

Never share your username and password with anyone, not even your parents.

Never include your birthdate in any password.



The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account' page on the Federal Student Aid website. The page has a header with the 'Federal Student Aid' logo and navigation links for 'FAFSA Form', 'Grants and Loans', 'Loan Repayment', and 'Loan Forgiveness'. A progress bar at the top indicates six steps: 1. Email (checked), 2. Personal Info (current step), 3. Phone, 4. Address, 5. Password, and 6. Security. The 'Tell Us About Yourself' section includes a certification statement and form fields for First Name (John), Middle Name (optional), Last Name (Doe), Name Suffix (optional), Date of Birth (Month: January, Day: 01, Year: 2005), and Social Security Number (***-**-9781). A 'SHOW SSN' link is next to the SSN field. At the bottom, there is a link 'What if I don't have a Social Security number?' and a 'Hi! Need help?' button with an owl icon.

Homelessness

If you're currently unaccompanied by a parent or guardian and are homeless, or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless:

Use the mailing
address of an adult or
trusted relative or
friend.

OR

Use the address at the
college financial aid
office.

Always ask permission first!

Verify Email and Cell Phone Information

You'll receive a message saying Federal Student Aid (FSA) sent you a secure code.

Retrieve the message from your inbox and enter it as shown.

Another code will be sent to your cell phone (optional) to verify your phone number.

An official website of the United States government.

Get Help FAFSA Form English | Español

FederalStudentAid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form Grants and Loans Loan Repayment Loan Forgiveness

Log In | Create Account

Create an Account

Email Personal Info Phone Address Password Security

Your Verification Methods

Each time you log in, we'll send a code to verify it's you.

Email	user@example.com	Verified
Text Message	(210) 555-5555	Verified

Additional Verification Methods

Authenticator App
Use an authenticator app to generate secure codes. [Set Up](#)

Backup Code
If you can't use your other log-in methods, you can use a backup code to log in. You can find your code or create a new one in your account settings.

J76Q2QVTE3AV [Copy Code](#)

☐ I agree to Federal Student Aid's [terms and conditions](#).

[Previous](#) [Create Account](#)

[Hi! Need help?](#)

One-Use Backup Code

You'll be given a one-use backup code when you've finished your new account application. This can be used if the 2-step verification isn't successful. Store it somewhere safe.

If it gets lost, log in to your account and select "Generate a New Backup Code" under "Two-Step Verification" in Settings.

Note: Your backup code can only be used once.

Your Backup Code Is:

WPF6JIL73FEF

**For assistance, contact
Federal Student Aid at
1-800-4-FED-AID or
1-800-433-3243.**

You Can Create Your Account Now

Accounts will be verified immediately with the Social Security Administration.

Remember, your account log-in information is your electronic signature, **unique to you**. Do not share it with anyone.

Remind your parent(s) they will also need to create an account.

Complete your FAFSA



Gather Your Information

Social Security or Permanent Resident Card

2025 Tax Returns/W-2s

Current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts (cash doesn't have to be reported if less than \$1,000; all savings and checking balances must be reported)

Parent's email address (will be used to invite your parent)

Helpful FAFSA Tips

Don't use punctuation when entering information unless there's punctuation on your Social Security or Permanent Resident card.

Save the application frequently throughout the process.

Always use the "Previous" and "Continue" buttons to go from page to page; don't use your browser's "Back" button or you may lose your work and have to start over.

Start Your Form

Go to FAFSA.gov.

Choose the “Start” button for the **2027-28** FAFSA.

This FAFSA is for classes starting on or after July 1, **2027**.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the text "An official website of the United States government." and "Federal Student Aid" logo. Below the logo, there are links for "FAFSA Form", "Grants and Loans", "Loan Repayment", and "Loan Forgiveness". On the right side of the navigation bar, there are links for "Get Help", "FAFSA Form", "English", "Español", "Log In", and "Create Account".

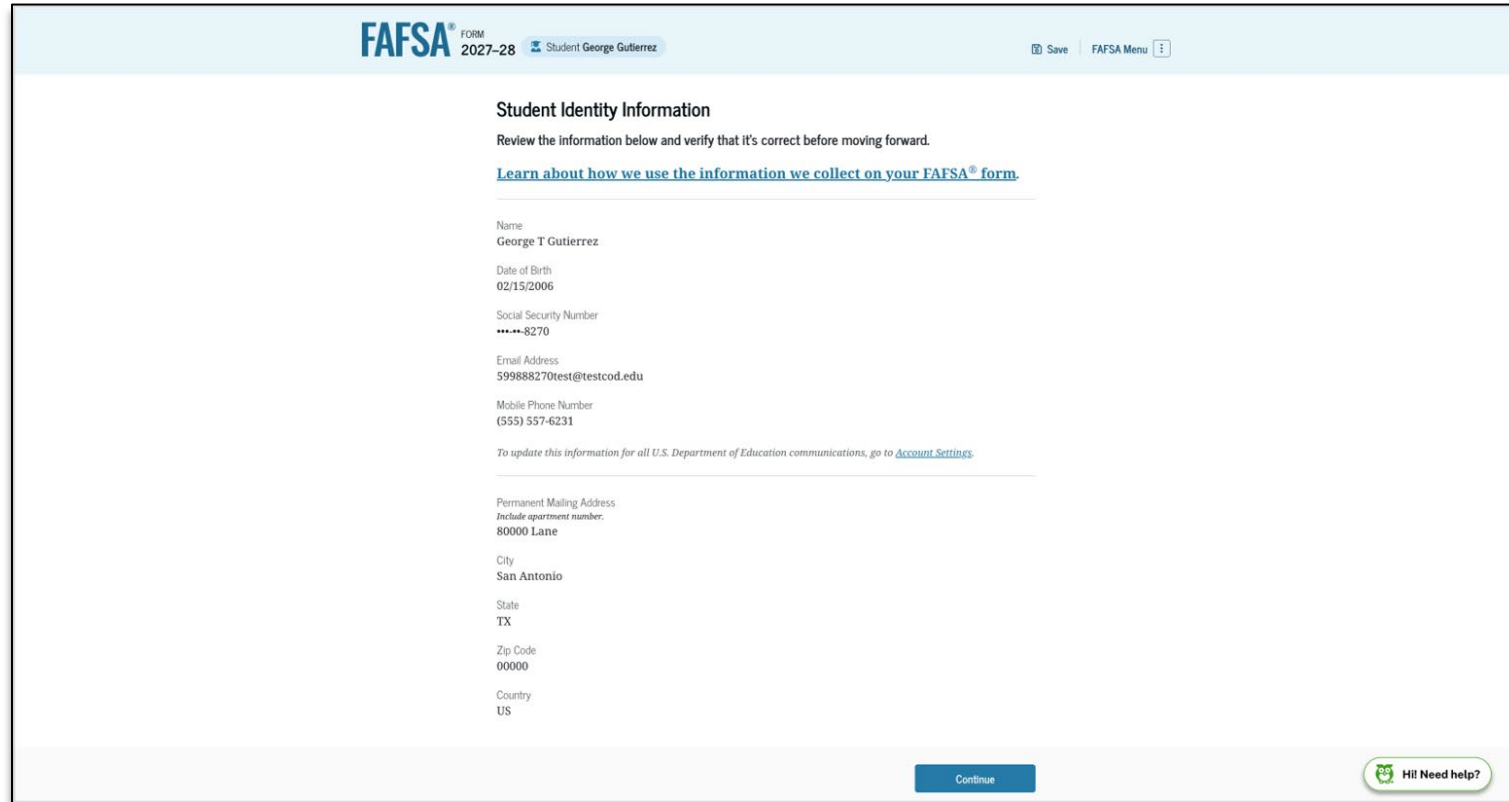
The main content area is titled "Which FAFSA® form do you need?". It features two side-by-side boxes. The left box is highlighted with a green border and contains a red checkmark, the text "SCHOOL YEAR 2027-28", and "Typically for classes starting on or after: July 1, 2027". It has a blue "Start" button. The right box contains the text "SCHOOL YEAR 2026-27" and "Typically for classes starting before: July 1, 2027". It has a light blue "Start" button.

Below these boxes, there is a section titled "Attending school during a summer session?" with the text: "If you're starting classes during a summer session, contact your school to verify what school year you should pick to apply for federal student aid."

Review Identity Information

To update information,
access your account settings
at StudentAid.gov.

Changes to your mailing
address can be made
directly on this page.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 Student Identity Information review page. The header includes the FAFSA logo, the form year (2027-28), the student's name (George T. Gutierrez), and links for Save and FAFSA Menu. The main section is titled "Student Identity Information" and includes a prompt to review and verify the information. A link is provided to learn about data collection. The form fields are as follows:

Field	Value
Name	George T. Gutierrez
Date of Birth	02/15/2006
Social Security Number	***-**-8270
Email Address	599888270test@testcod.edu
Mobile Phone Number	(555) 557-6231
Permanent Mailing Address	80000 Lane
City	San Antonio
State	TX
Zip Code	00000
Country	US

At the bottom, there is a "Continue" button and a "Hi! Need help?" link.

Provide Consent

Provide consent and approval or you won't be eligible for federal student aid.



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

Provide Consent and Approval or You Won't Be Eligible for Federal Student Aid

Summary

Your consent and approval are needed to retrieve and disclose federal tax information. With your consent and approval, we can obtain tax return information automatically from the IRS to help you complete the FAFSA[®] form. If you don't provide consent and approval, you will not be eligible for federal student aid, including grants and loans. You must provide consent and approval even if you didn't file a U.S. federal tax return or any tax return.

- Get your 2025 tax return information for the 2027-28 FAFSA form.
- Federal tax information is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.
- Tax return information is required to complete the FAFSA form.

By accepting below, I consent to the disclosure of information about me, and affirmatively approve of:

- the receipt and use of my federal tax information, and
- the redisclosure of my federal tax information by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), as described herein.

By accepting below, I consent to and affirmatively approve of, as applicable, the following:

1. ED may disclose my Social Security number/Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, last name, date of birth, unique identifier, the tax year for which federal tax information is required, and the date and timestamp of my approval for the use of my federal tax information

[Hi! Need help?](#)

Automatic Transfer of Income Tax Information from the IRS



If any contributor does not choose "Approve:"

- The FAFSA will not be processed
- The student will not be eligible for most types of federal student aid

There may be exceptions for
special or unusual circumstances.

Background

FAFSA[®] FORM 2027–28 Student George Gutierrez

1

2

3

4

5

6

BackgroundDemographicsFinancialsCollegesContributor InviteReview & Sign

Background

We'll ask you questions that help us determine your eligibility for federal student aid. This information can affect the types of federal student aid you're eligible to receive.

→ Sometimes we need to collect information from other people depending on answers in this section. We'll let you know if this is the case.

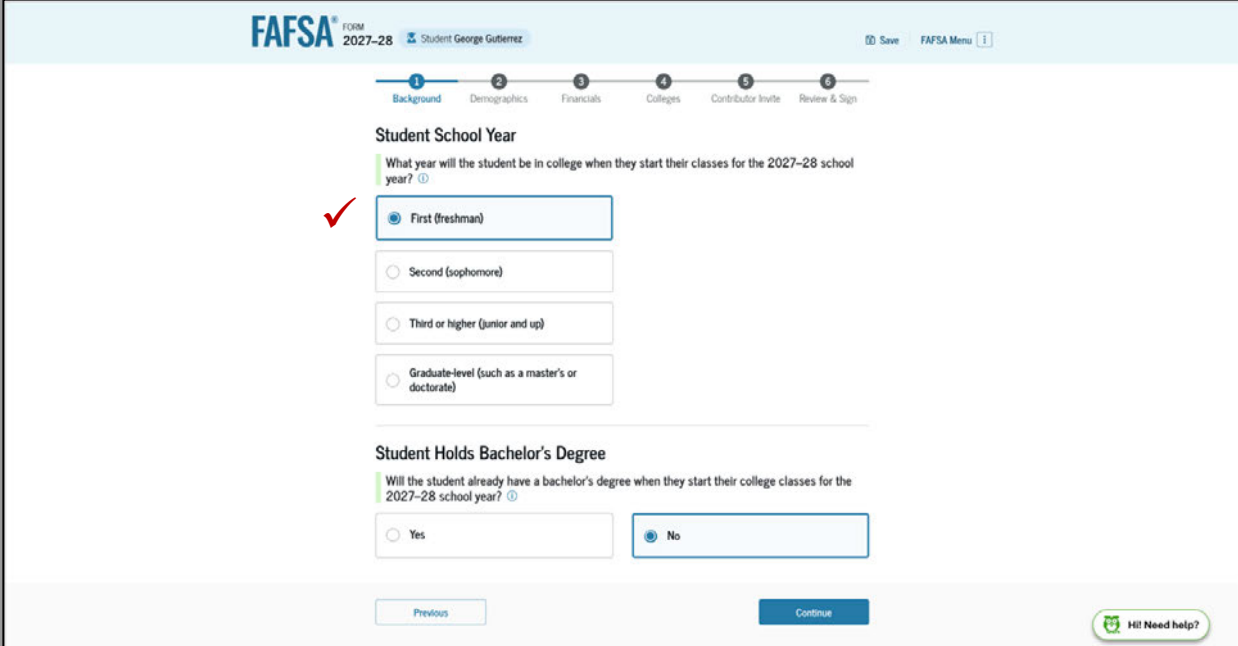
Previous

Continue



College or Career School Plans

Even if you have concurrent enrollment or AP credit, be sure to choose "First Year (freshman)" as your college grade level.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: 1. Background, 2. Demographics, 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Review & Sign. The current step is 'Student School Year'. The question asks, 'What year will the student be in college when they start their classes for the 2027-28 school year?'. Four radio button options are listed: 'First (freshman)' (which is selected and marked with a red checkmark), 'Second (sophomore)', 'Third or higher (junior and up)', and 'Graduate-level (such as a master's or doctorate)'. Below this, the question 'Student Holds Bachelor's Degree' asks, 'Will the student already have a bachelor's degree when they start their college classes for the 2027-28 school year?'. Two radio button options are shown: 'Yes' and 'No' (which is selected). At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons, and a 'Need help?' link.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 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 Need help?

Student Personal Circumstances

Review the situations shown to see whether you qualify as a dependent or independent student. If none of these situations apply to you, check **“None of These Apply”** and select **“Continue.”**

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the current step is 'Student Personal Circumstances' (Step 4), with previous steps being Background, Demographics, Financials, and Colleges, and future steps being Contributor Invite and Review & Sign. The section title is 'Student Personal Circumstances' with the instruction 'Select all that apply or "None of these apply."'. There are eight checkboxes with corresponding descriptions, each with a help icon (i) to its right. The first seven checkboxes are unchecked, and the eighth checkbox, 'None of these apply.', is checked. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons, and a 'Hi! Need help?' button with a chat icon.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 Review & Sign

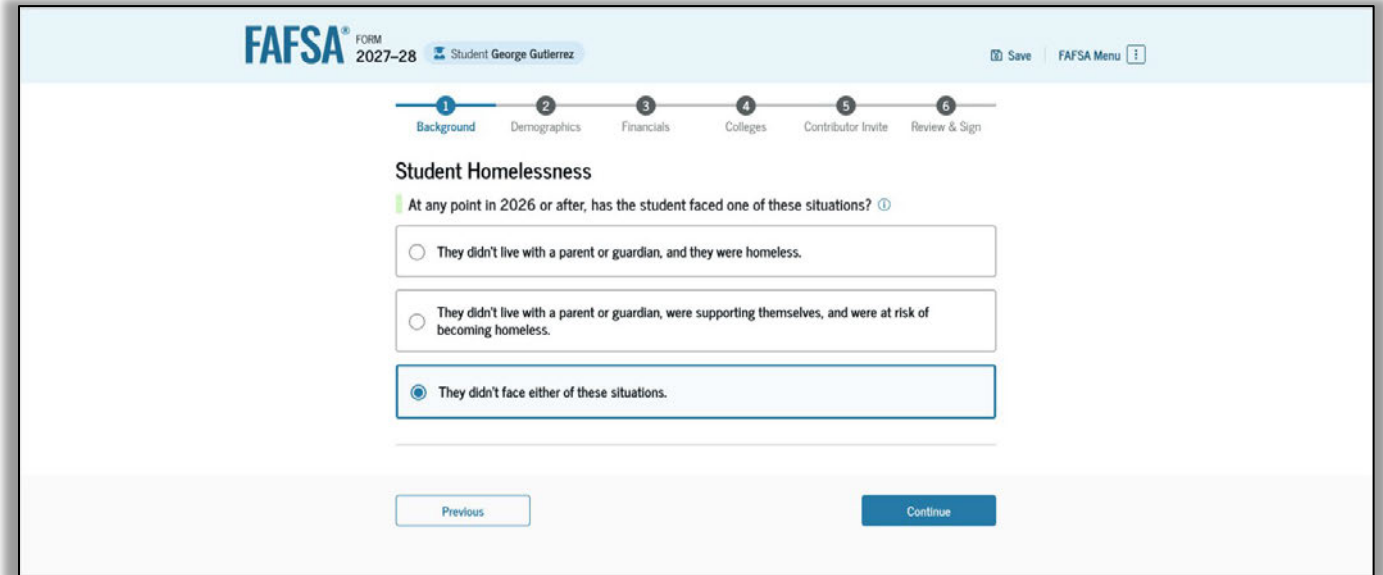
Student Personal Circumstances
Select all that apply or "None of these apply."

- ☐ The student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training.
- ☐ The student is a veteran of the U.S. armed forces.
- ☐ The student has children or other people (excluding their spouse) who live with them and receive more than half of their support from the student now and between July 1, 2027, and June 30, 2028.
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent).
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were a ward of the court.
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care.
- ☐ The student is or was a legally emancipated minor, as determined by a court in their state of residence.
- ☐ The student is or was in a legal guardianship with someone other than their parent or stepparent, as determined by a court in their state of residence.
- ☒ None of these apply.

Previous Continue Hi! Need help?

Student Homelessness

If you've been unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian and have been homeless or at risk of being homeless **at any point in 2026 or after**, answer "Yes" to this question.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The top navigation bar includes the FAFSA logo, the form year (2027-28), the student's name, and links for 'Save' and 'FAFSA Menu'. Below the navigation bar is a progress indicator with six steps: 1. Background, 2. Demographics, 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Review & Sign. The current step is 'Student Homelessness'. The question asks: 'At any point in 2026 or after, has the student faced one of these situations?'. There are three radio button options: 'They didn't live with a parent or guardian, and they were homeless.', 'They didn't live with a parent or guardian, were supporting themselves, and were at risk of becoming homeless.', and 'They didn't face either of these situations.' The third option is selected. At the bottom of the form are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 Review & Sign

Student Homelessness

At any point in 2026 or after, has the student faced one of these situations?

☐ They didn't live with a parent or guardian, and they were homeless.

☐ They didn't live with a parent or guardian, were supporting themselves, and were at risk of becoming homeless.

☒ They didn't face either of these situations.

Previous Continue

Other Unusual Circumstances

If none of these circumstances apply to you, answer the question "No."

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the current step is 'Background' (1), with other steps being 'Demographics' (2), 'Financials' (3), 'Colleges' (4), 'Contributor Invite' (5), and 'Review & Sign' (6). The 'Student Unusual Circumstances' section is highlighted. It includes a green box stating: 'This information will help us evaluate the student's ability to pay for school.' Below this, a question asks: 'Do unusual circumstances prevent the student from contacting their parents or would contacting their parents pose a risk to the student?' with a help icon. A list of circumstances is provided: 'A student may be experiencing unusual circumstances if they' followed by a bulleted list: 'left home due to an abusive or threatening environment;', 'are abandoned by or estranged from their parents;', 'have refugee or asylee status and are separated from their parents, or their parents are displaced in a foreign country;', 'are a victim of human trafficking;', 'are incarcerated, or their parents are incarcerated and contact with the parents would pose a risk to the student; or', and 'are otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents.' A note states: 'If the student's circumstances resulted in not having a safe and stable place to live, they may be considered a homeless youth and should review the answer to the previous question about being unaccompanied and homeless.' At the bottom, there are two radio button options: 'Yes' (unselected) and 'No' (selected). Navigation buttons for 'Previous' and 'Continue' are at the bottom, along with a 'Hi! Need help?' chat icon.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 Review & Sign

Student Unusual Circumstances

This information will help us evaluate the student's ability to pay for school.

Do unusual circumstances prevent the student from contacting their parents or would contacting their parents pose a risk to the student? ⓘ

A student may be experiencing unusual circumstances if they

- left home due to an abusive or threatening environment;
- are abandoned by or estranged from their parents;
- have refugee or asylee status and are separated from their parents, or their parents are displaced in a foreign country;
- are a victim of human trafficking;
- are incarcerated, or their parents are incarcerated and contact with the parents would pose a risk to the student; or
- are otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents.

If the student's circumstances resulted in not having a safe and stable place to live, they may be considered a homeless youth and should review the answer to the previous question about being unaccompanied and homeless.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Previous Continue

Hi! Need help?

Provisionally Independent Status

If an unusual circumstance applies to you:

- You'll be given a "provisionally independent" status
- Your parents won't be required to contribute information to your FAFSA
- The financial aid office at your college will ask you for documentation to verify your situation
- You must provide the required information by the deadline the financial aid office provides
- The financial aid office will decide whether you will be a Dependent or Independent student going forward

Parent Participation

If a parent is unwilling to provide information for their dependent student's FAFSA, the student may indicate that here.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 Review & Sign

Your Dependency Status

Dependent Student
Based on your answers, you're a dependent student. This means you must provide parent information on your FAFSA[®] form. This information helps determine how much federal student aid you're eligible to receive.

Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only

Are the student's parents refusing to provide their information on this FAFSA[®] form? ⓘ

This response must be "No" for the student to be considered for Federal Pell Grant eligibility and most other types of federal student aid.

☐ Yes ☒ No

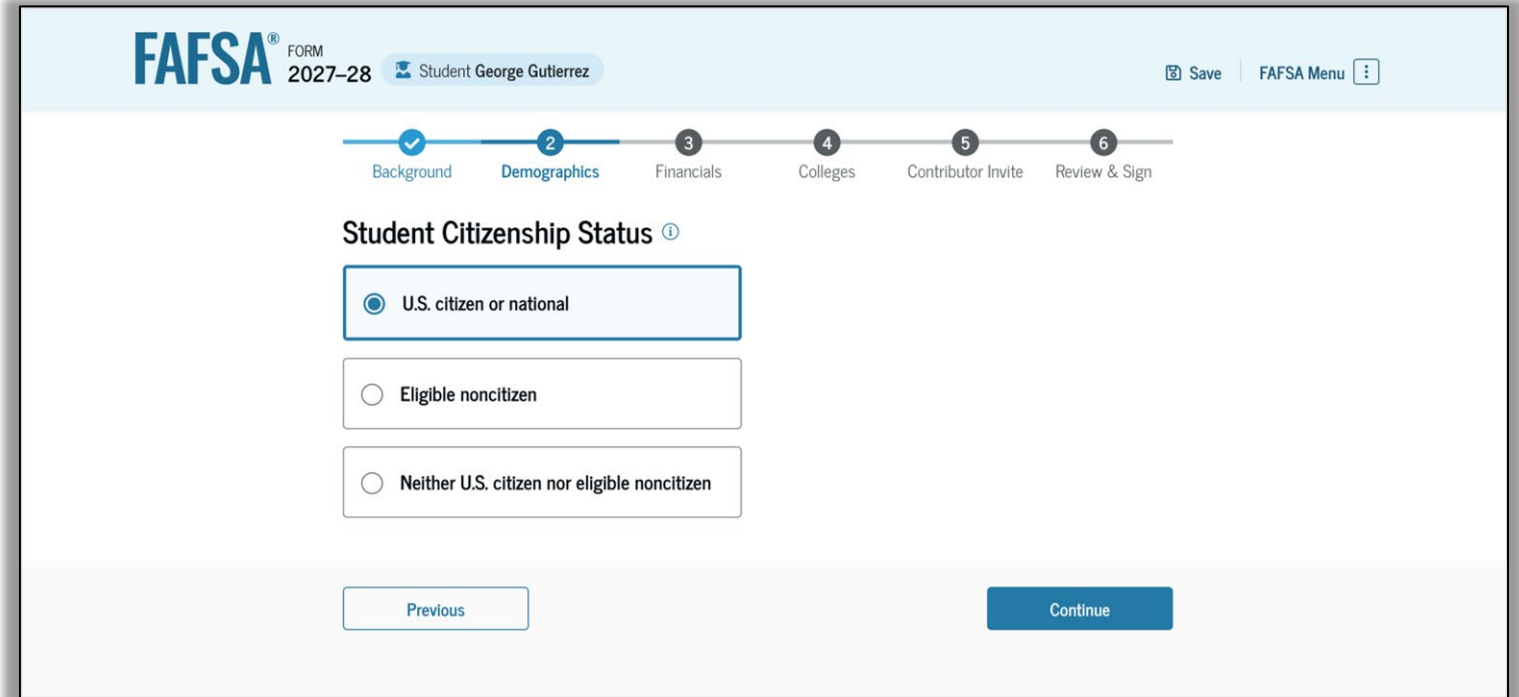
Previous Continue

Hi! Need help?

Citizenship Status

To receive federal financial aid, you must be:

- A U.S. Citizen,
- A U.S. National, *or*
- An eligible non-citizen (Permanent Resident)



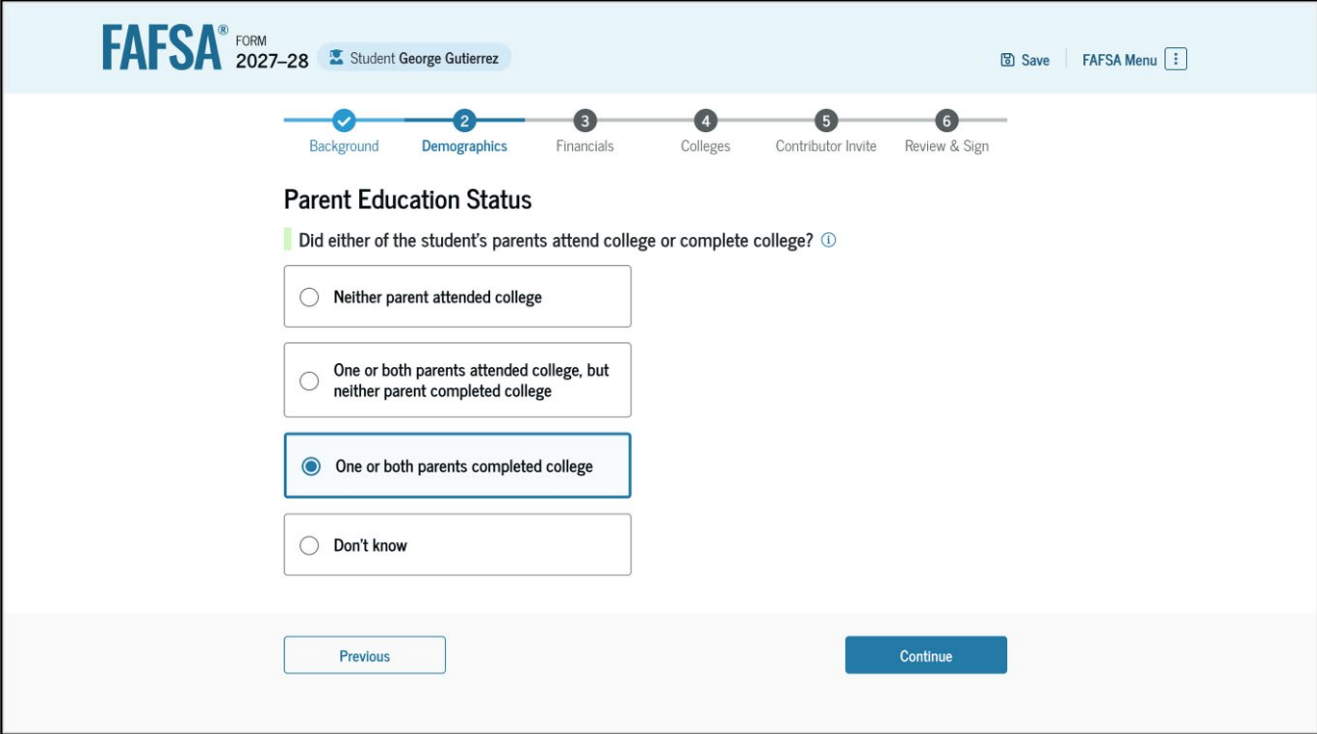
The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. At the top, the FAFSA logo and form year are displayed. A progress bar indicates the current step is 'Demographics' (step 2), with previous steps being 'Background' (step 1) and subsequent steps being 'Financials' (step 3), 'Colleges' (step 4), 'Contributor Invite' (step 5), and 'Review & Sign' (step 6). The main heading is 'Student Citizenship Status'. Below this, there are three radio button options: 'U.S. citizen or national' (which is selected), 'Eligible noncitizen', and 'Neither U.S. citizen nor eligible noncitizen'. At the bottom of the form, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Note: A parent contributing information to your FAFSA is **not** required to have one of the statuses listed above.

Parent Education Status

Choose the highest level of education your **birth** parents reached.

If you don't know the answer, select the last choice.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: 1. Background (completed), 2. Demographics (current step), 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Review & Sign. The 'Parent Education Status' section asks, 'Did either of the student's parents attend college or complete college?'. There are four radio button options: 'Neither parent attended college', 'One or both parents attended college, but neither parent completed college', 'One or both parents completed college' (which is selected and highlighted with a blue border), and 'Don't know'. At the bottom of the form, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

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

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Parent Education Status

Did either of the student's parents attend college or complete college? ⓘ

☐ Neither parent attended college

☐ One or both parents attended college, but neither parent completed college

☒ One or both parents completed college

☐ Don't know

Previous Continue

Parent Killed in Line of Duty

If you qualify as a dependent of a deceased service member or safety officer (law enforcement, firefighter or emergency service worker), you may be eligible for a full Pell grant.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: 1. Background (completed), 2. Demographics (current step), 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Review & Sign. The 'Parent Killed in Line of Duty' question is displayed, asking if the student's parent or guardian was killed in the line of duty while either (1) serving on active duty as a member of the U.S. armed forces on or after 9/11, or (2) performing official duties as a public safety officer. A note specifies that public safety officers include law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency service workers. The 'No' option is selected with a radio button. Navigation buttons for 'Previous' and 'Continue' are located at the bottom of the question section.

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

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Parent Killed in Line of Duty

Was the student's parent or guardian killed in the line of duty while either (1) serving on active duty as a member of the U.S. armed forces on or after the events of 9/11, or (2) performing official duties as a public safety officer? ⓘ

Public safety officers include law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency service workers.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Previous Continue

Student High School Completion Status

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

Select the option that applies to you.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 form for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: 1. Background (completed), 2. Demographics (current step), 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, 5. Contributor Invite, and 6. Review & Sign. The main heading is "Student High School Completion Status". The question is "Will the student be done with high school when they start their college classes for the 2027-28 school year?". A note states: "If the student completed high school outside of the U.S., select 'Yes (high school diploma)'." There are four radio button options: "Yes (high school diploma)" (selected), "Yes (GED or other state-recognized high school equivalent)", "Yes (homeschooling under state law)", and "No, none of the above". At the bottom, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

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

1 Background 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 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

Student High School Information

Enter the state, then city of the high school you will graduate from. Then select your school from the results.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. The top navigation bar includes the FAFSA logo, the form year, the student's name, and links for 'Save' and 'FAFSA Menu'. A progress bar below the header shows six steps: Background (completed), Demographics (current), Financials, Colleges, Contributor Invite, and Review & Sign. The 'Student High School Information' section is active, with a question: 'From what high school did or will the student graduate?'. Below this is a search box titled 'Search for The Student's High School'. It includes a link for 'Attend a School outside of the US? Manually Add Foreign School'. The 'State' dropdown is set to 'Texas (TX)'. A list of search results shows 'East Central H S' and 'East Central Cast Lead H S'. The input field contains 'East Centra' and a search button is at the bottom.

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

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Student High School Information

From what high school did or will the student graduate? ⓘ

Search for The Student's High School

Attend a School outside of the US? [Manually Add Foreign School](#)

State

Texas (TX)

East Central H S

East Central Cast Lead H S

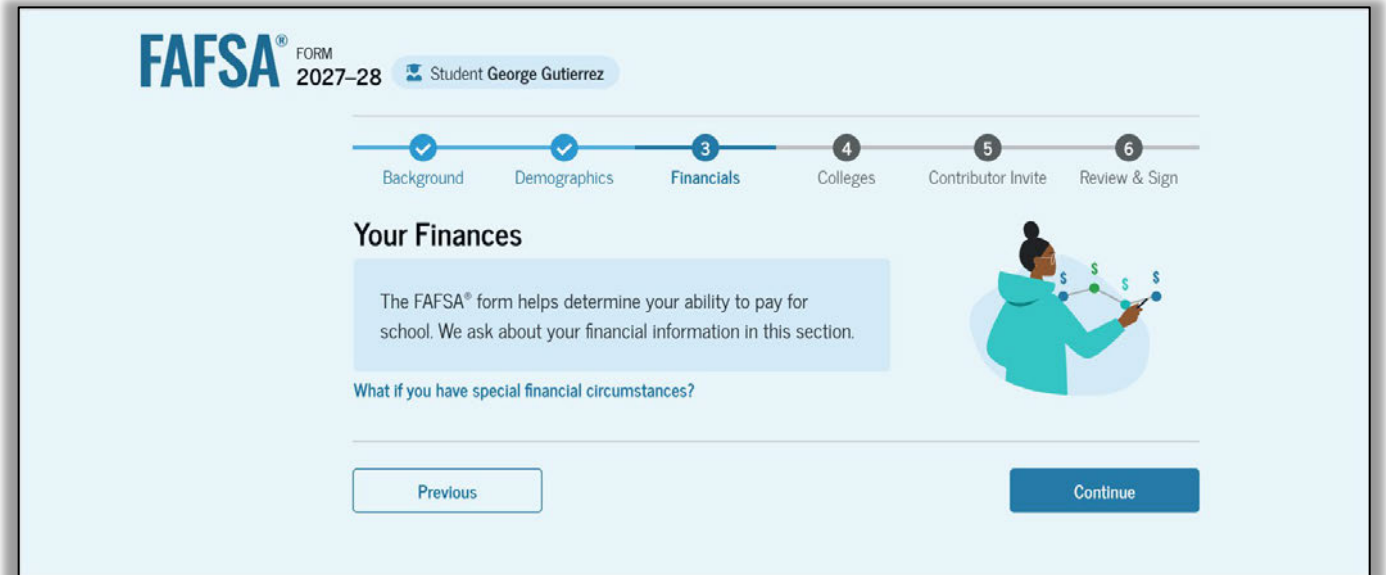
East Centra x

Search

Student Finances

Be prepared to report any income you earned in 2025, even if you didn't file a tax return.

If you didn't file, you'll be able to enter your information manually.



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 application interface for Student George Gutierrez. At the top, the FAFSA logo and form year are displayed. Below this, a progress bar indicates the current step: 3. The progress bar includes six steps: Background (checked), Demographics (checked), Financials (current step, highlighted with a blue circle), Colleges (4), Contributor Invite (5), and Review & Sign (6). The main heading is 'Your Finances'. Below this, a light blue box contains the text: 'The FAFSA® form helps determine your ability to pay for school. We ask about your financial information in this section.' To the right of this text is an illustration of a person in a teal hoodie holding a smartphone, with dollar signs floating around them. Below the text box, there is a link that says 'What if you have special financial circumstances?'. At the bottom of the section, there are two buttons: 'Previous' (light blue) and 'Continue' (dark blue).

Reporting Financial Information

Refer to your W-2s

- Find your 2025 W-2(s) before you start
- If no W-2(s), be prepared to give an estimate of your income
- Report whole dollars (no decimals)
- Enter zero if a question doesn't apply to you

Student Assets

Current value of cash, savings and checking accounts (report cash only if \$1,000 or more)

Current net worth of businesses and farms

Current net worth of investments, including real estate

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 form for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: Background (checked), Demographics (checked), Financials (current step, marked with a 3), Colleges (marked with a 4), Contributor Invite (marked with a 5), and Review & Sign (marked with a 6). The 'Student Assets' section contains three input fields, each with a dollar sign, a numeric input, and a decimal input (set to .00). The first field is for 'Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts' with a value of 100. The second field is for 'Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate' with a value of 0. The third field is for 'Current Net Worth of Businesses and Farms' with a value of 0. Each field has a help icon (i) to its right. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

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

Background Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Student Assets

Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts
Don't include student aid retirement accounts, or investments.

\$ 100 .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.

\$ 0 .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.

\$ 0 .00 ⓘ

Previous Continue

Select Colleges and Career Schools

FAFSA[®] FORM 2027–28  Student George Gutierrez

✓

✓

✓

4

5

6

Background

Demographics

Financials

Colleges

Contributor Invite

Review & Sign

Select Colleges and Career Schools

Search for and select colleges and career schools you're considering so they automatically receive an electronic copy of the FAFSA[®] form.



Previous

Continue

Where to Send FAFSA Information

Select up to 20 schools to receive your FAFSA information.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. At the top, a progress bar indicates the current step is 'Colleges' (step 4), with previous steps 'Background', 'Demographics', and 'Financials' completed, and subsequent steps 'Contributor Invite' and 'Review & Sign' pending. The main heading asks 'Where should we send the FAFSA® information?' and notes that more schools can be added after submission. It shows '0 out of 20 schools selected' with a 'View Selected Schools' link. Below this are two search tabs: 'Search by School Name or Code' (selected) and 'Search by Location'. A search input field labeled 'School Name or Code' is present, followed by a blue 'Search' button. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' navigation buttons.

Review Selected Schools

Make sure all the schools you're interested in are listed.

More schools can be added later, if necessary.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. At the top, a progress bar indicates the user is on step 4, 'Colleges', with previous steps (Background, Demographics, Financials) completed and subsequent steps (Contributor Invite, Review & Sign) pending. The main heading is 'Selected Colleges and Career Schools', followed by a note that these are the schools selected to receive the FAFSA form. A green box contains 'School List Guidelines for Texas Residents', stating that at least one eligible in-state college must be listed for state grant aid. Below this, a green pill indicates '1 out of 20 schools selected'. The list shows 'University of Texas-austin' with its federal school code '003658'. Action buttons 'Remove' and 'View Information' are next to the school entry. A search link 'Search and Select More Schools' is at the bottom. Navigation buttons 'Previous' and 'Continue' are at the very bottom.

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

Background Demographics Financials **Colleges** Contributor Invite Review & Sign

Selected Colleges and Career Schools

These are the colleges and career schools that you've selected to receive the FAFSA[®] form.

Review this list of schools and confirm your selection(s).

School List Guidelines for Texas Residents

To be eligible for state grant aid in Texas, you must list an eligible in-state college. The order of schools in your college list will not impact your eligibility for state aid programs.

1 out of 20 schools selected

Showing 1 of 1

University of Texas-austin Austin, Texas (TX)	Federal School Code 003658	Remove	View Information
---	-------------------------------	------------------------	----------------------------------

[Search and Select More Schools](#)

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

Invite Parent as Contributor

FAFSA[®] FORM
2027–28

Student **George Gutierrez**

Save

FAFSA Menu

✓

✓

✓

✓

5

6

BackgroundDemographicsFinancialsCollegesContributor InviteReview & Sign

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 biological or adoptive parent as determined by the state.

You shouldn't invite a stepparent or legal guardian (such as a grandparent or foster parent) unless they have legally adopted you. Your legal parent will invite your stepparent to the form if needed. Stepparents and other types of guardians do not count unless they have legally adopted the student.

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

Previous

Continue



Input Parent Information

You will need their current email address.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar at the top indicates the following steps: Background, Demographics, Financials, Colleges, Contributor Invite (current step, marked with a blue circle and checkmark), and Review & Sign (marked with a grey circle). The main heading is "Invite One Parent to This FAFSA® Form". Below this, a green box contains the text: "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." Below the green box, a grey box contains the text: "As a dependent student, you need to invite a legal parent as a contributor. You only need to invite one parent." Below the grey box, a blue link reads: "Who should I invite as a parent on the FAFSA form?". A modal window titled "Parent" is open, showing the "Invite a Parent Contributor" section. It has an "Email" label and a text input field containing "599888214test@testcod.edu". To the right of the input field is a small blue icon with a question mark. Below the input field is a blue button labeled "Send Invite". At the bottom of the page, there are two buttons: "Previous" and "Continue".

Review Your Responses

To view all your responses, click “Expand All” or view each section individually.

To edit a response, select the question’s hyperlink and you’ll be taken to the correct page.

You’ll also be able to see the status of your parent(s)’ invitation.

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for Student George Gutierrez. At the top, a progress bar indicates completion status for Background, Demographics, Financials, Colleges, Contributor Invite, and Review & Sign. The main heading is "Review and Sign Your Section". Below this, a message states: "If you need to change any of your responses, select the question to return to that page. Otherwise, sign and finish your section." A "Scroll To Continue" instruction follows, advising the user to scroll to the bottom and click "Continue".

The "Student Sections Updated" section includes a list of sections with expand/collapse icons:

- Introduction
- Personal Identifiers
- Section 1 Background
- Section 2 Demographics
- Section 3 Financials
- Section 4 Colleges

The "Contributor Section" area shows that the section is shared with 1 contributor(s). A table lists the contributor information:

Contributor(s)	Role	Invite Code	Status
599888214test@hescod.edu	Parent	5M-FVQV	Invite Sent

At the bottom, there is a link for "Terms and Conditions".

View Terms & Conditions

Terms and Conditions

Confirm that you understand the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and filled out your section of the form accurately to the best of your ability.

[View Terms & Conditions](#) ⚠ Not Viewed

Sign and Submit Your FAFSA® Form ⓘ

☐ I, George Gutierrez, agree to the terms outlined above.

The Form Isn't Ready To Submit

One or more contributors still need to complete their section. After the other contributor(s) complete their section, they can submit the form.

- Finish your section now.
- Reach out to the other contributor(s) and ask them to complete their section and submit the form.

[Previous](#) [Finish Student Section](#)

Terms and Conditions

Note:

The FAFSA form is a legal document you will electronically sign with your StudentAid.gov account username and password (FSA ID). Because your FSA ID is associated with your personal information, do not share it with anyone.

By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you

- will use federal and/or state student aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education,
- are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- will notify your school if you default on a federal student loan, and
- will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one school for the same period of time.

By signing this application electronically using your StudentAid.gov account username and password, you certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked, to provide

- information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form, and
- U.S. or foreign income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application.

If you sign this application or any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposefully give false or misleading information, including applying as an independent student without meeting the unusual circumstances required to qualify for such a status, you may be subject to criminal penalties under 20 U.S.C. 1097, which may include a fine up to \$20,000, imprisonment, or both.

Additionally, by signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to disclose all information provided on this application, as required under Section 483(a)(2)(D)(i) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to the institutions you have identified herein, state higher education agencies (in your state of residence and the states in which the institutions identified herein are located), and designated scholarship organizations to assist with the application, award, and administration of federal, state, or institutional financial aid programs and designated scholarship programs. Notwithstanding this authorization, the name of an institution that you select to authorize such disclosure shall not be shared with any other institution.

[Done](#)

Sign and Complete Your Section

Now you're ready to check the box.

Be sure to choose "Finish Student Section," bottom right.

Terms and Conditions

Confirm that you understand the terms and conditions of the FAFSA® form and filled out your section of the form accurately to the best of your ability.

[View Terms & Conditions](#) ✔ Viewed

Sign and Submit Your FAFSA® Form ⓘ

☐ I, George Gutierrez, agree to the terms outlined above.

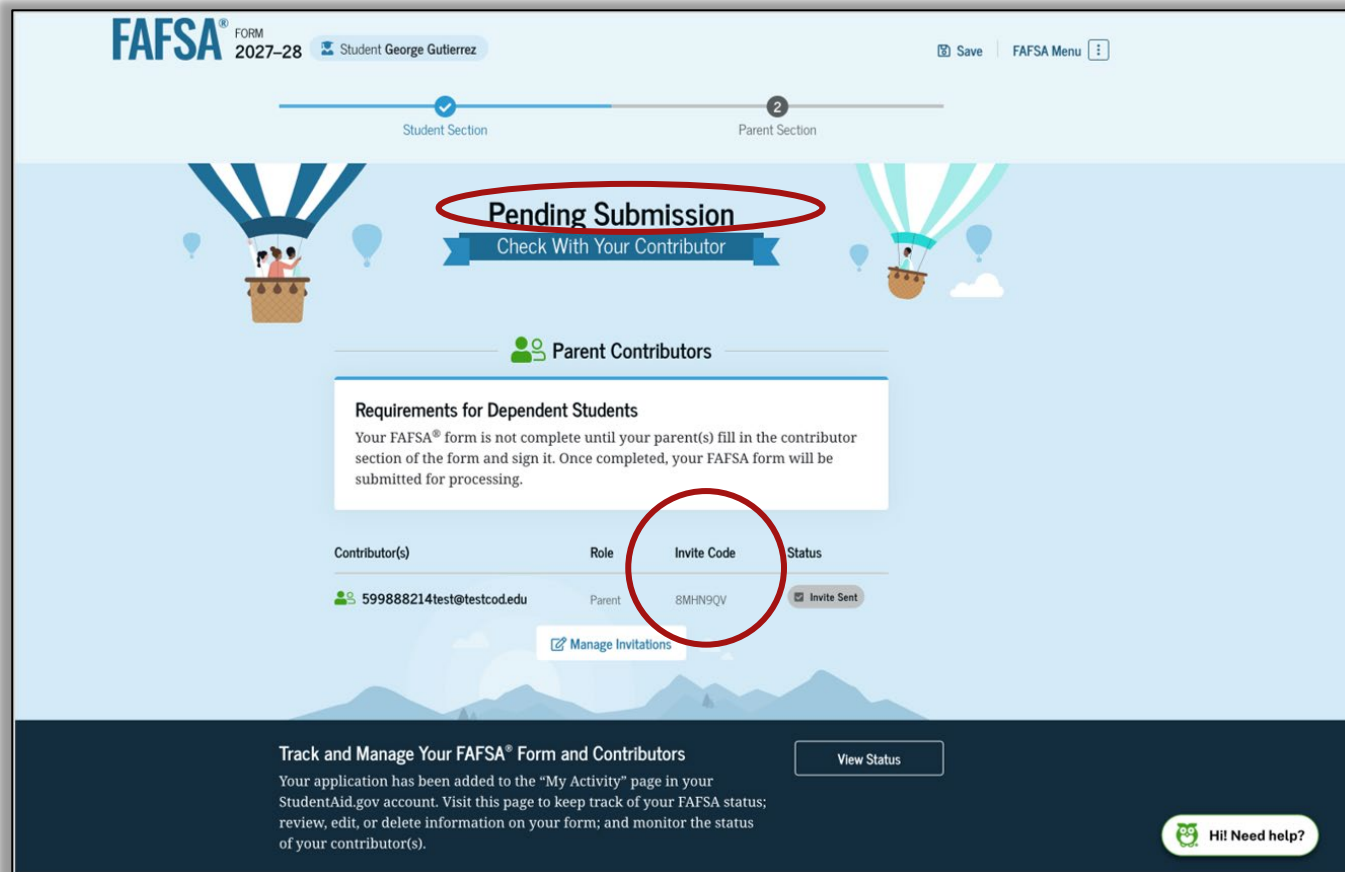
The Form Isn't Ready To Submit

One or more contributors still need to complete their section. After the other contributor(s) complete their section, they can submit the form.

- Finish your section now.
- Reach out to the other contributor(s) and ask them to complete their section and submit the form.

[Previous](#) [Finish Student Section](#)

Your Part of the FAFSA is Complete



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 Student Section for Student George Gutierrez. The progress bar indicates the Student Section is complete (1 of 2), and the Parent Section is next. A red circle highlights the 'Pending Submission' status, which includes the instruction 'Check With Your Contributor'. Below this, a section titled 'Parent Contributors' contains a message for dependent students: 'Your FAFSA® form is not complete until your parent(s) fill in the contributor section of the form and sign it. Once completed, your FAFSA form will be submitted for processing.' A table lists the parent contributor(s) with columns for Contributor(s), Role, Invite Code, and Status. The table shows one parent contributor with the email 599888214test@testcod.edu, role Parent, and invite code 8Mh-IN9QV. The status is 'Invite Sent'. A red circle highlights the 'Invite Code' column. At the bottom, there is a 'Track and Manage Your FAFSA® Form and Contributors' section with a 'View Status' button and a 'Hi! Need help?' button.

FAFSA® FORM 2027-28 Student George Gutierrez Save FAFSA Menu

Student Section 2 Parent Section

Pending Submission
Check With Your Contributor

Parent Contributors

Requirements for Dependent Students
Your FAFSA® form is not complete until your parent(s) fill in the contributor section of the form and sign it. Once completed, your FAFSA form will be submitted for processing.

Contributor(s)	Role	Invite Code	Status
599888214test@testcod.edu	Parent	8Mh-IN9QV	Invite Sent

Manage Invitations

Track and Manage Your FAFSA® Form and Contributors
Your application has been added to the "My Activity" page in your StudentAid.gov account. Visit this page to keep track of your FAFSA status; review, edit, or delete information on your form; and monitor the status of your contributor(s).

View Status

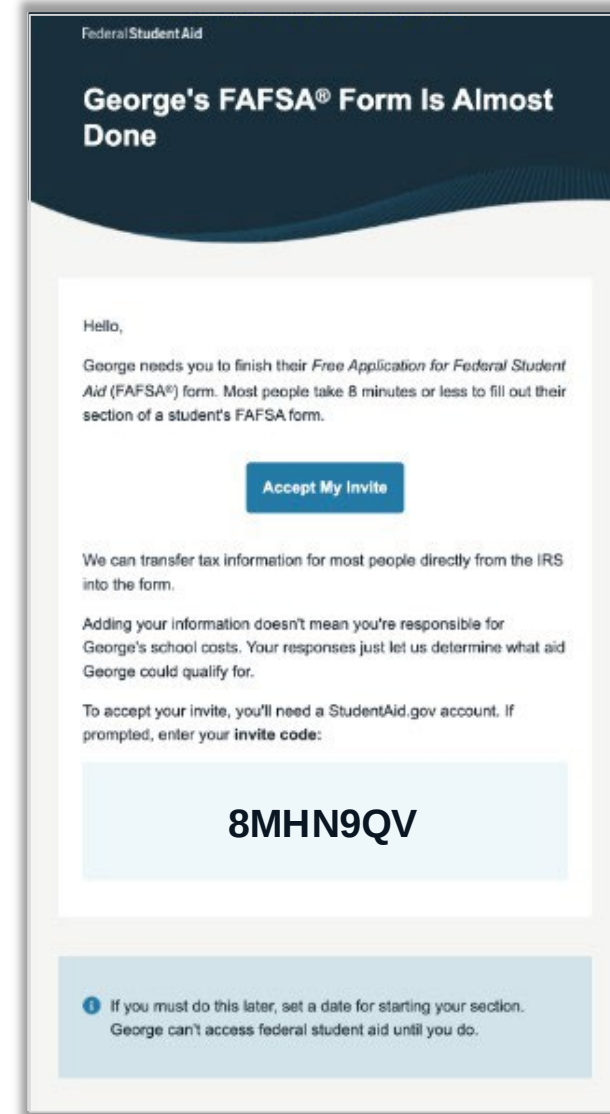
Hi! Need help?

Remember to take a picture or write down the security code that your parents will receive in their email.

Parent Email

When you invite your parents to contribute their information to the FAFSA, they will receive an email from Federal Student Aid.

When they click "Log In," they will be taken to StudentAid.gov, where they'll be able to enter their username and password and start their part of the application.



Parental Information

Social Security or Permanent Resident Card

Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), when necessary

2025 Tax Returns/W-2s

Current balance of cash, savings or checking accounts (do not report cash if less than \$1,000)

Records of child support received

Net worth of investments, business and farms

Parent Logs in the FAFSA.gov

Log In

Email Address or Username

[Forgot email address or username?](#)

Continue

[Create an Account](#)

Log In

← 599888270test

Password

[Forgot password?](#)

Log In

[Create an Account](#)

← FAFSA Home Page

Accept FAFSA® Invitation

Enter the code you received for the FAFSA form.

Invitation Code

Accept invite

How long will my section take?

⌚ 8 min

Need to accept an invitation for a different year?

Go to "My Activity" to find any existing invitations for a previous year's FAFSA form.

Why do we need your information?

We need your information to determine if the student qualifies for federal grants, work-study jobs, and/or loans. This doesn't make you responsible for the student's school costs.

Don't have an invitation code?

Speak with the person who invited you to the form and ensure they have sent it to your email. Check your inbox for your invitation code.

Parent Role and Confirmation

FAFSA[®] FORM
2027–28

Parent of George Gutierrez



Congratulations!

The student's FAFSA[®] form has been processed!

What to Know Now

1. The student's FAFSA Submission Summary has estimates of their eligibility for federal student aid.
2. The student should review the "Next Steps" section of their FAFSA Submission Summary to make sure there are no issues with their form. They'll also get an email.
3. Schools will contact the student. If a school needs more information to determine how much aid the student is eligible for, they'll reach out. Schools will also send financial aid offers. If the student has a question about a school's student aid package, they should contact the school's financial aid office directly.

[Return to My Dashboard](#)

What's Next?

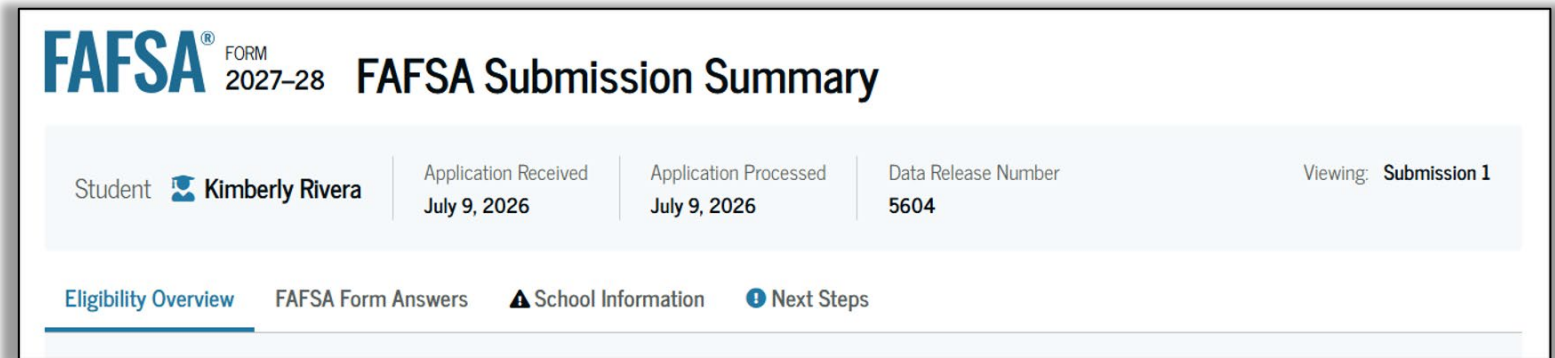


FAFSA Submission Summary

Read all sections and make any corrections necessary.

Print a copy and keep it in a safe place.

The Data Release Number (DRN) can be very important.



The screenshot displays the FAFSA Submission Summary page for the 2027-28 academic year. The header includes the FAFSA logo and the title "FAFSA Submission Summary". Below the header, a table provides key information: Student (Kimberly Rivera), Application Received (July 9, 2026), Application Processed (July 9, 2026), and Data Release Number (5604). The page also indicates the user is viewing "Submission 1". At the bottom, a navigation bar includes links for "Eligibility Overview", "FAFSA Form Answers", "School Information", and "Next Steps".

FAFSA [®] FORM 2027-28 FAFSA Submission Summary			
Student  Kimberly Rivera	Application Received July 9, 2026	Application Processed July 9, 2026	Data Release Number 5604
Viewing: Submission 1			
Eligibility Overview FAFSA Form Answers ▲ School Information ! Next Steps			

After the FAFSA, What's Next?

Financial aid offices at the schools listed will receive your FAFSA data.

They'll use the Student Aid Index (SAI) to determine your "Financial Need."

They'll prepare a Financial Aid Offer that will list the types and amounts of aid you will qualify for at their school.

Your Student Aid Index (SAI)

Your SAI is an index number calculated using information provided on your FAFSA form. Your school uses your SAI to determine your federal student aid eligibility and to build your financial aid offer. Your SAI may change if you update or correct your FAFSA information or after verification (if your FAFSA form was selected for review). Once your updated FAFSA form is complete and fully processed, you'll receive a new FAFSA Submission Summary, which may include changes to your SAI and estimated federal student aid.

-1500

[What does this mean?](#)

Special Circumstances

If your family has experienced a loss of income since 2025, such as:

- Loss of job or reduction of hours
- Loss of income due to divorce, separation or death of parent
- Unusual medical expenses
- Larger income in 2025 that is not expected again

Discuss this with your financial aid office; it's possible they can adjust your income level to represent your current circumstances. This is called a "Professional Judgment."

Financial Aid Offer

Shows the total Cost of Attendance for one year at the institution.

Shows the types and amount of aid the student is eligible to receive.

You're not required to accept all the aid that's offered and be sure you know the deadline to accept/decline any aid.



2027-2028 FINANCIAL AID OFFER OCAP UNIVERSITY



Student Name: Jennifer Smith
Student ID: 1234567

ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)

DIRECT COSTS		INDIRECT COSTS	
Tuition	\$5,305	Books & Supplies	\$1,203
Fees	\$2,658	Transportation	\$900
Food & Housing	\$8,081	Miscellaneous	\$2,000
Total Direct Costs	\$16,044	Total Indirect Costs	\$3,403

Total Estimated Cost of Attendance: \$20,147

NEXT STEPS

- **Accept or Decline** aid offered before the deadline listed in the Financial Aid section of your student portal.
- **Provide required documents** for verification, if applicable.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS & WORK-STUDY

AID TYPE	FALL 27	SPRING 28	ANNUAL
Federal Pell Grant	\$3,448	\$3,447	\$6,895
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG)	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Incoming Freshman Scholarship	\$750	\$750	\$1,500
Federal Work-Study*	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,400

Total Scholarships & Grants \$6,398 \$6,397 \$12,795

*Federal work-study funds are contingent upon finding employment. Earnings are paid out bi-weekly.

STUDENT LOANS

AID TYPE	FALL 27	SPRING 28	ANNUAL
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan**	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$3,500
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan**	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Total Aid Offered	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$5,500

**Federal loans are funds that can be applied toward your cost of attendance and must be repaid. You must accept or decline your loan eligibility by logging into your student portal.

Estimated outstanding costs not covered by grants, scholarships, work-study and loans:

\$1,852

OTHER FINANCING OPTIONS

FEDERAL PARENT PLUS LOAN

A loan available to parents with a good credit history. Parent repays the loan.

PRIVATE STUDENT LOAN

Loans from banks or other lending institutions that are not federally supported. Students must apply for these loans separately.

PAYMENT PLAN

OCAP University offers students a payment plan to spread the cost over the semester. Log into your student portal to enroll in a payment plan.

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available from various businesses, organizations, and employers. Receiving outside scholarships may affect your eligibility for other types of aid.

For more information on these additional funding options please visit OKcollegestart.org or UCanGo2.org.

Please contact OCAP University's Financial Aid Office for assistance navigating the financial aid process.

Disclaimer: This financial aid offer is a sample, using fictional information. Each institution's financial aid offer will vary.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3226, and is located at the following website: www.okcollegestart.org. This publication has been submitted in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes. This publication was produced in July 2026.

Scholarships



Scholarships Online

Websites:

- UCanGo2.org
- OKcollegestart.org
- OCCF.org
- TulsaCF.org

Search online for:

- Brand names
- Restaurants
- Local companies
- Google

The image shows a screenshot of the UCanGo2.org website. The main navigation bar includes icons for a menu, user profile, settings, folders, list view, search, and a home button. The 'Scholarships' section is highlighted, with a sub-header 'Free money! That's right - winning a scholarship means money is given to you. You don't have to be a straight A student, either. There are scholarships for a lot of different students.' Below this, there are three main buttons: 'MY SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE' (Build your profile and find scholarships), 'MATCHING SCHOLARSHIPS' (Find scholarships that match your profile), and 'SAVED SCHOLARSHIPS' (Scholarships you've saved for future action). At the bottom, there are filters for 'Merit Scholarships' and 'Need-Based'.

Overlaid on the right is a 'Scholarships by Deadline' window. It features the UCanGo2.org logo with the tagline 'WITHIN REACH ... WITHIN YOU'. Below the logo, it states: 'Scholarships are a great way to help pay for college or career tech. Use our [Scholarship Success Guide](#) and other valuable resources linked below for help with finding, preparing and tracking scholarship applications. Keep in mind all scholarship information listed is subject to change.'

The 'September' section contains a table of scholarships:

Scholarship	Award Amount	Deadline
Andrew S. Mathers Scholarship	\$1,000	9/1/2026
Caroline M. Hewins Children's Librarians Scholarship	\$4,000	9/1/2026
Castagra Roofing Scholarship	\$500-\$1,500	9/4/2026
Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award Scholarship	Up to \$10,000	9/9/2026

UCanGo2™

MCKOLLEGESTART.ORG
CLICK • COMPARE • CHOOSE

PATH TO SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

Starting the scholarship application process with a successful strategy in place is key. Knowing how to plan, research, apply and track applications will increase your chances of earning valuable awards. UCanGo2.org offers resources and publications to help you plan, prepare and pay for your education after high school.

PLAN

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, in your senior year of high school and each year you need financial aid for education expenses. Learn more at FAFSA.gov.
- Investigate the cost of attendance at the school you plan to attend, and determine how much you'll need to cover your expenses. OKcollegestart.org can help you find the cost of higher education institutions nationwide.
- Evaluate your resources to determine how you'll pay for college. Consider savings, your current earnings, financial aid and any scholarships you may have already won.
- Create a resume that lists your talents, accomplishments and awards and provide it to those you ask to write letters of recommendation.

RESEARCH

- Scholarships are awarded based on a number of factors, including family, sports, community service, grades, hobbies, test scores, residency, financial need, skills, leadership, essays, college majors and more.
- Search for scholarships from your prospective colleges, tribal entities, employers, local organizations, Google, books and more.
- Ask your school counselor for scholarship resources.
- Use legitimate scholarship search sites like those found on the next page and at UCanGo2.org and OKcollegestart.org.
- Align your search to your characteristics and your college and career goals.

APPLY

- Check the deadline!
- Read through the application and any requirements for transcripts, essays, and letters of recommendation. Be sure to request/complete these items early.
- Follow instructions, review and proof your application so you're sure there are no mistakes. Ask someone else to proof it, too.
- Write an essay that's captivating, sets you apart, and is original. Take time to proofread and ask a teacher or counselor to proofread it, as well. Consider the guidance available in our [Scholarship Essay Tips](#) publication.
- Keep copies of your applications, essays, and letters of recommendation. You'll use the same general information on most applications, so copies will come in handy. Revising an essay you've already used is a good way to save time and improve upon what you've already created.
- Watch out for scholarship scams! Read the fine print, beware of guarantees, never pay to submit an application and protect your personal information. Learn more about scams at ftc.gov/scholarshipscams.

TRACK

- Make note of all requirements to ensure you're applying for scholarships for which you're eligible.
- Send thank you notes to those who participated in your application process and to the scholarship providers if you win the award.
- Use a [Scholarship Tracker](#) to organize and keep track of completed applications and upcoming deadlines.
- Understand how a scholarship may impact other financial aid you've been awarded. Check with the college financial aid office if you have questions.



TUCANGO2™

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY TIPS

The scholarship essay is a chance for you to shine and to set yourself apart from other scholarship applicants. Writing a good essay is key to winning a scholarship, so use these tips to help you move to the top of the list. Scholarships with essay requirements are likely to have fewer applicants.

Scholarship essays are used by providers to:

- Find students who meet certain criteria.
- Get to know you as a student and person.
- Make sure your experience and interests coincide with the organization's mission.

Keep these tips in mind when writing your scholarship essay:

- Take writing your essay seriously; remember it's key to earning the scholarship.
- Make sure your essay is honest, original, conveys your personality and captivates the reader.
- Be organized, meet all requirements and don't rush through your essay.
- Write and edit your essay in another document and copy and paste it to the application. Save this document and use it to start your next essay.
- Be prepared to answer the scholarship question (sometimes called a prompt) on a variety of topics, which might include:
 - Future academic or life plans
 - Personal history or achievements
 - Current events or social issues

Writing Tips:

- Read the directions carefully before you start.
- Be aware of deadlines.
- Brainstorm ideas and create an outline.
- Write a rough draft, a second draft and then a final copy.
- Start over if you finish and your work doesn't seem to fit the scholarship prompt.
- If needed, ask for help from your counselor, a teacher or someone you know who has received a scholarship that required an essay.
- Use personal and real stories. The scholarship provider wants to know you and what makes you unique.
- The majority of scholarship providers discourage the use of artificial intelligence for composing an essay. Consider AI as a tool to assist in refining your ideas, verifying grammar or enhancing the overall document.
- Use spell check, proofread and be mindful of vocabulary and grammar. Mistakes can be costly. Make use of online grammar and writing tools.
- Watch for questions that require more than one answer.

Sample Essay Questions or Prompts:

- Describe an experience that changed your life. What did you learn? How will this experience influence you moving forward?
- Advice is sometimes easier to give than to follow. Share a piece of advice you ignored and why you should have followed it.
- Describe an innovative project you designed, the goal of your project, and the outcomes. Be prepared to provide supporting documentation.
- Write a letter explaining your need for this scholarship, your plans for higher education and your future career goals.
- Describe a moment that illustrates your shift from child to adult within your community or family.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 76 O.S. 2001, Section 2006, and is located at the following website: www.scollegregtest.org. This publication has been published in compliance with Section 3-114 of Title 65 of the Oklahoma Statutes. This publication was produced in June 2008.

[illegible]

Questions?



UCanGo2.org

StartWithFAFSA.org

866.443.7420

405.234.4239

UCanGo2@ocap.org



This presentation is for educational purposes only and is not intended to be construed as financial, investment, legal and/or tax advice.