

## 2016-2017 Financial Aid Dependency Override Request

Dependency overrides are intended for students who can prove and fully document exceptional circumstances. We cannot approve requests for students whose sole reason for the request is because their parents are unwilling to provide parental information or for students who have chosen to live on their own.

The Department of Education determines a student's status as dependent or independent by the answers the student provides on the seven questions listed in Step Three of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students are classified as dependent or independent because federal student aid programs are based on the principle that students (and their parent or spouse, if applicable) are considered the primary source of support for postsecondary education.

**Please Note: The Financial Aid Administrator's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.**

Examples of unusual circumstances include:

- A student's voluntary or involuntary removal from their parents' home due to an extreme situation that threatened the student's health and/or safety and, due to these conditions, parent support was terminated.
- Incapacity of parent(s) such as incarceration, mental or physical illness or the inability of the applicant to locate the parent(s).
- Other extenuating circumstances that can be sufficiently documented.

In recent years, the U.S. Department of Education has identified four conditions that, individually or in combination with one another, do not qualify as "unusual circumstances" or that do not merit a dependency override. Those circumstances are:

- Parents' unwillingness or inability to contribute to the student's education.
- Parents' unwillingness to provide information on the application or for verification.
- Parents not claiming the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
- Student can demonstrate total self-sufficiency.

### **Please note**

- If your appeal is complete or submitted without the necessary documentation, processing of your appeal will be delayed until the additional information is obtained.
- Submission of an appeal does not guarantee your request will be approved.
- If approved, the dependency override is valid for only one academic year. Approval in one year does not guarantee approval in following years. Your status must be reassessed each academic year.
- You will be notified in writing of the outcome of your dependency override request. Please allow approximately four weeks from the date we receive your completed form and all supporting documentation before contacting our office regarding the status of your request.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete **ALL** required information on this form.

- Attach a typed (or neatly hand-written), signed statement that explains in detail the extreme, unique and/or unusual family circumstances that prevent you from obtaining and providing your parents' information for your financial aid application.
- Attach a signed copy of your 2015 Federal Income Tax Return and W-2s if you filed taxes, or a copy of your 2015 W-2s if you were employed but did not file a tax return. If you were not employed, provide a statement explaining how your living expenses were covered.
- Attach documentation of your 2015 income to date from all income sources.
- Attach court or other official documentation of your status (e.g., guardianship, HHS documentation).
- Attach a signed statement from your guardian (if applicable) detailing your circumstances.
- Attach a signed statement from a third party who is knowledgeable of your family situation and can verify the reason you are unable to provide your parent's information. The third-party letter must include:
  - How long the third-party has known the student.
  - The third-party's relationship to the student.
  - When was the last time the student lived with and/or received financial support from his/her parents?
  - Any knowledge of his/her relationships with the parents.
  - The steps the student has taken to establish his/her independence from the parents.

This third party should be someone unrelated to you and should be on letterhead. Appropriate third-party statements are from clergy, school counselors, teachers or similar professions.

# 2016-2017 Financial Aid Dependency Override Request

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print neatly**

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived at this address? \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_ Months

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

What are your present living arrangements? (with whom do you live with and since what date)

\_\_\_\_\_

When did you last live with your parent(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

When did your parent(s) last provide any monetary support for you? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you last have contact with your parent(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you have contact with your parent(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you support yourself and meet your living expenses? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you covered by your parent(s) medical insurance? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you covered by your parent(s) car insurance? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you have your own medical and/or car insurance.

Do you own your own vehicle?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No (attach an explanation of your transportation arrangements)

Are all utilities (such as electricity, gas, telephone, cable) in your name?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No (attach explanation)

Cash support from people other than the student's parents should be included as untaxed income on Worksheet B (includes amounts paid by others for bills in the student's name).

Amount of cash support: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In-kind support is support other than money (e.g., friends, relatives giving the student food or allowing him/her to live with them rent free).

Amount of in-kind support: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Certification

By signing below, I agree to provide additional documentation deemed necessary by the Financial Aid department, including court documents. I further certify that all information contained on this form and in the supporting documentation is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if my situation changes in any way, if I move back with my parents or receive any kind of support from them, that I must report this information to the Financial Aid Office. Purposely providing false or misleading information can result in fines, imprisonment or both.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use this form to apply free for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans.

Or apply free online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).

### Applying by the Deadlines

For federal aid, submit your application as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2016. We must receive your application no later than June 30, 2017. Your college must have your correct, complete information by your last day of enrollment in the 2016-2017 school year.

For state or college aid, the deadline may be as early as January 2016. See the table to the right for state deadlines. You may also need to complete additional forms.

Check with your high school guidance counselor or a financial aid administrator at your college about state and college sources of student aid and deadlines.

If you are filing close to one of these deadlines, we recommend you file online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). This is the fastest and easiest way to apply for aid.

### Using Your Tax Return

We recommend that you complete and submit your FAFSA as soon as possible on or after January 1, 2016. If you (or your parents) need to file a 2015 income tax return with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and have not done so yet, you can submit your FAFSA now using estimated tax information, and then you **must correct** that information **after you file** your return.

The easiest way to complete or correct your FAFSA with accurate tax information is by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool through [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). In a few simple steps, most students and parents who filed a 2015 tax return can view and transfer their tax return information directly into their FAFSA.

**Note:** Both parents or both the student and spouse may need to report income information on the FAFSA if they did not file a joint tax return for 2015. For assistance with answering the income information questions in this situation, call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

### Filling Out the FAFSA\*

If you or your family experienced significant changes to your financial situation (such as loss of employment), or other unusual circumstances (such as high unreimbursed medical or dental expenses), complete this form to the extent you can and submit it as instructed. Consult with the financial aid office at the college(s) you applied to or plan to attend.

For help in filling out the FAFSA, go to [www.studentaid.gov/completedefafsa](http://www.studentaid.gov/completedefafsa) or call 1-800-433-3243. TTY users (for the hearing impaired) may call 1-800-730-8913.

Fill the answer fields directly on your screen or print the form and complete it by hand. Your answers will be read electronically; therefore if you complete the form by hand:

• use black ink and fill in circles completely:

Correct ● Incorrect ⊗ ⊖

• print clearly in CAPITAL letters and skip a box between words:

1	5	E	L	M	S	T
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• report dollar amounts (such as \$12,356.41) like this:

\$	1	2	3	5	6	no cents
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Orange is for student information and purple is for parent information.

### Mailing Your FAFSA\*

After you complete this application, make a copy of pages 3 through 8 for your records. Then mail the original of pages 3 through 8 to:

**Federal Student Aid Programs, P.O. Box 7650, London, KY 40742-7650.**

After your application is processed, you will receive a summary of your information in your *Student Aid Report* (SAR). If you provide an e-mail address, your SAR will be sent by e-mail within three to five days. If you do not provide an e-mail address, your SAR will be mailed to you within three weeks. If you would like to check the status of your FAFSA, go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) or call 1-800-433-3243.

### Let's Get Started!

Now go to page 3 of the application form and begin filling it out. Refer to the notes on pages 9 and 10 as instructed.

Check with your financial aid administrator for these states and territories:  
AL, AS\*, AZ, CO, FM\*, GA, GU\*, HI\*, MH\*, MP\*, NE, NH\*, NM, PR, PW\*, SD\*, UT, VA\*, VI\*, WI and WY\*.

### Pay attention to any symbols listed after your state deadline.

State	Deadline
AK	Alaska Performance Scholarship - June 30, 2016; later applications accepted if funds available. Alaska Education Grant - As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
AR	Academic Challenge - June 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) Workforce Grant - Contact the financial aid office. Higher Education Opportunity Grant - June 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
CA	For many state financial aid programs - March 2, 2016 ( <i>date postmarked</i> ) + * For additional community college Cal Grants - September 2, 2016 ( <i>date postmarked</i> ) + * Contact the California Student Aid Commission or your financial aid administrator for more information.
CT	February 15, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) # *
DC	FAFSA completed by April 1, 2016 For DCTAG, complete the DC OneApp and submit supporting documents by April 30, 2016.
DE	April 15, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
FL	May 15, 2016 ( <i>date processed</i> )
IA	July 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) Earlier priority deadlines may exist for certain programs. *
ID	Opportunity Grant - March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) # *
IL	As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
IN	March 10, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
KS	April 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) # *
KY	As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
LA	July 1, 2017 ( <i>date received</i> ) Earlier priority deadlines may exist for certain programs. *
MA	May 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) #
MD	March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
ME	May 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
MI	March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
MN	30 days after term starts ( <i>date received</i> )
MO	April 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
MS	MTAG and MESH Grants - September 15, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) HELP Scholarship - March 31, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
MT	March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) #
NC	As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
ND	April 15, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) # Earlier priority deadlines may exist for institutional programs. 2015-2016 Tuition Aid Grant recipients - June 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
NJ	All other applicants - October 1, 2016, fall & spring terms ( <i>date received</i> ) - March 1, 2017, spring term only ( <i>date received</i> )
NV	Silver State Opportunity Grant - As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$ All other aid - Contact your financial aid administrator. *
NY	June 30, 2017 ( <i>date received</i> ) *
OH	October 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
OK	March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) #
OR	OSAC Private Scholarships - March 1, 2016 Oregon Opportunity Grant - As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
PA	All first-time applicants enrolled in a: community college; business/trade/technical school; hospital school of nursing; designated Pennsylvania Open-Admission institution; or non-transferable two-year program - August 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) * All other applicants - May 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) *
RI	March 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) #
SC	Tuition Grants - June 30, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ) SC Commission on Higher Education Need-based Grants - As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
TN	State Grant - March 1, 2016. Eligible prior-year recipients receive priority, and all other awards made to neediest applicants until funds are depleted. State Lottery - fall term, September 1, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> ); spring & summer terms, February 1, 2017 ( <i>date received</i> ) Tennessee Promise - February 15, 2016
TX	March 15, 2016 ( <i>date received</i> )
VT	As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$ *
WA	As soon as possible after January 1, 2016. \$
WV	PROMISE Scholarship - March 1, 2016. New applicants must submit additional application. Contact your financial aid administrator or your state agency. WV Higher Education Grant Program - April 15, 2016

STATE AID DEADLINES

# What is the FAFSA®?

## Why fill out a FAFSA?

The *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) is the first step in the financial aid process. You use the FAFSA to apply for federal student aid, such as grants, work-study, and loans. In addition, most states and colleges use information from the FAFSA to award nonfederal aid.

## Why all the questions?

The questions on the FAFSA are required to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC measures your family's financial strength and is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid. Your state and the colleges you list may also use some of your responses. They will determine if you may be eligible for school or state aid, in addition to federal aid.

## How do I find out what my Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is?

Your EFC will be listed on your *Student Aid Report* (SAR). Your SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your FAFSA. It is important to review your SAR to make sure all of your information is correct and complete. Make corrections or provide additional information, as necessary.

## How much student financial aid will I receive?

Using the information on your FAFSA and your EFC, the financial aid office at your college will determine the amount of aid you will receive. The college will use your EFC to prepare a financial aid package to help you meet your financial need. Financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (which can include living expenses) as determined by your college, and your EFC. If you or your family have unusual circumstances that should be taken into account, contact your college's financial aid office. Some examples of unusual circumstances are: unusual medical or dental expenses or a large change in income from last year to this year.

## When will I receive the student financial aid?

Any financial aid you are eligible to receive will be paid to you through your college. Typically, your college will first use the aid to pay tuition, fees and room and board (if provided by the college). Any remaining aid is paid to you for your other educational expenses. If you are eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, you may receive it from only one college for the same period of enrollment.

## How can I have more colleges receive my FAFSA information?

If you are completing a paper FAFSA, you can only list four colleges in the school code step. You may add more colleges by doing one of the following:

- After your FAFSA has been processed, go to *FAFSA on the Web* at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Click the "Login" button on the home page to log in to *FAFSA on the Web*, then click "Make FAFSA Corrections."
- Use the *Student Aid Report* (SAR), which you will receive after your FAFSA is processed. Your Data Release Number (DRN) verifies your identity and will be listed on the first page of your SAR. You can call 1-800-433-3243 and provide your DRN to a customer service representative, who will add more school codes for you.
- Provide your DRN to the financial aid administrator at the college you want added, and he or she can add their school code to your FAFSA.

**Note:** Your FAFSA record can only list up to ten school codes. If there are ten school codes on your record, each new code will need to replace one of the school codes listed.

## Where can I receive more information on student financial aid?

The best place for information about student financial aid is the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend. The financial aid administrator can tell you about student aid available from your state, the college itself and other sources.

- You can also visit our web site [StudentAid.gov](http://StudentAid.gov).
- For information by phone you can call our Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243. TTY users (for the hearing impaired) may call 1-800-730-8913.
- You can also check with your high school counselor, your state aid agency or your local library's reference section.

Information about other nonfederal assistance may be available from foundations, faith-based organizations, community organizations and civic groups, as well as organizations related to your field of interest, such as the American Medical Association or American Bar Association. Check with your parents' employers or unions to see if they award scholarships or have tuition payment plans.

# Information on the Privacy Act and use of your Social Security Number

We use the information that you provide on this form to determine if you are eligible to receive federal student financial aid and the amount that you are eligible to receive. Sections 483 and 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, give us the authority to ask you and your parents these questions, and to collect the Social Security Numbers of you and your parents. We use your Social Security Number to verify your identity and retrieve your records, and we may request your Social Security Number again for those purposes.

State and institutional student financial aid programs may also use the information that you provide on this form to determine if you are eligible to receive state and institutional aid and the need that you have for such aid. Therefore, we will disclose the information that you provide on this form to each institution you list in questions 103a - 103h, state agencies in your state of legal residence and the state agencies of the states in which the colleges that you list in questions 103a - 103h are located.

If you are applying solely for federal aid, you must answer all of the following questions that apply to you: 1-9, 14-16, 18, 21-23, 26, 28-29, 32-37, 39-59, 61-68, 70, 73-86, 88-102, 104-105. If you do not answer these questions, you will not receive federal aid.

Without your consent, we may disclose information that you provide to entities under a published "routine use." Under such a routine use, we may disclose information to third parties that we have authorized to assist us in administering the above programs; to other federal agencies under computer matching programs, such as those with the Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration, Selective Service System, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice and Veterans Affairs; to your parents or spouse; and to members of Congress if you ask them to help you with student aid questions.

If the federal government, the U.S. Department of Education, or an employee of the U.S. Department of Education is involved in litigation, we may send information to the Department of Justice, or a court or adjudicative body, if the disclosure is related to financial aid and certain conditions are met. In addition, we may send your information to a foreign, federal, state, or local enforcement agency if the information that you submitted indicates a violation or potential violation of law, for which that agency has jurisdiction for investigation or prosecution. Finally, we may send information regarding a claim that is determined to be valid and overdue to a consumer reporting agency. This information includes identifiers from the record; the amount, status and history of the claim; and the program under which the claim arose.

## **State Certification**

By submitting this application, you are giving your state financial aid agency permission to verify any statement on this form and to obtain income tax information for all persons required to report income on this form.

## **The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1845-0001. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one and a half hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is voluntary. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, please contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center, P.O. Box 84, Washington, D.C. 20044 directly. [Note: Please do not return the completed form to this address.]

We may request additional information from you to process your application more efficiently. We will collect this additional information only as needed and on a voluntary basis.

### Step One (Student):

Your full name (exactly as it appears on your Social Security card) If your name has a suffix, such as Jr. or III, include a space between your last name and suffix.

1. Last name	<input type="text"/>	2. First name	<input type="text"/>	3. Middle initial	<input type="text"/>
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Your permanent mailing address

4. Number and street (include apt. number)	<input type="text"/>				
5. City (and country if not U.S.)	<input type="text"/>	6. State	<input type="text"/>	7. ZIP code	<input type="text"/>

8. Your Social Security Number See Notes page 9.	<input type="text"/>	9. Your date of birth MONTH DAY YEAR	<input type="text"/>	10. Your telephone number ( ) -	<input type="text"/>
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Your driver's license number and driver's license state (if you have one)

11. Driver's license number	<input type="text"/>	12. Driver's license state	<input type="text"/>
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13. Your e-mail address. If you provide your e-mail address, we will communicate with you electronically. For example, when your FAFSA has been processed, you will be notified by e-mail. Your e-mail address will also be shared with your state and the colleges listed on your FAFSA to allow them to communicate with you. If you do not have an e-mail address, leave this field blank.

<input type="text"/>
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14. Are you a U.S. citizen? Mark only one. See Notes page 9.	Yes, I am a U.S. citizen (U.S. national). Skip to question 16. <input type="radio"/>	15. Alien Registration Number	<input type="text"/>
	No, but I am an eligible noncitizen. Fill in question 15 <input type="radio"/>		
	No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen. Skip to question 16. <input type="radio"/>		

16. What is your marital status as of today? See Notes page 9.	I am single <input type="radio"/>	I am separated <input type="radio"/>	17. Month and year you were married, remarried, separated, divorced or widowed. See Notes page 9.	MONTH YEAR	<input type="text"/>
	I am married/remarried <input type="radio"/>	I am divorced or widowed <input type="radio"/>			

18. What is your state of legal residence? STATE	<input type="text"/>	19. Did you become a legal resident of this state before January 1, 2011? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	20. If the answer to question 19 is "No," give month and year you became a legal resident of that state. MONTH YEAR	<input type="text"/>
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21. Are you male or female? See Notes page 9.	Male <input type="radio"/>	Female <input type="radio"/>	22. If female, skip to question 23. Most male students must register with the Selective Service System to receive federal aid. If you are male, age 18-25 and not registered, fill in the circle and we will register you. See Notes page 9.	Register me <input type="radio"/>
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23. Have you been convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid (such as grants, work-study, or loans)? Answer "No" if you have never received federal student aid or if you have never had a drug conviction for an offense that occurred while receiving federal student aid. If you have a drug conviction for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid, answer "Yes," but complete and submit this application, and we will mail you a worksheet to help you determine if your conviction affects your eligibility for aid. If you are unsure how to answer this question, call 1-800-433-3243 for help.	No <input type="radio"/>	Yes <input type="radio"/>
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Some states and colleges offer aid based on the level of schooling your parents completed.

24. Highest school completed by Parent 1	Middle school/Jr. high <input type="radio"/>	High school <input type="radio"/>	College or beyond <input type="radio"/>	Other/unknown <input type="radio"/>
25. Highest school completed by Parent 2	Middle school/Jr. high <input type="radio"/>	High school <input type="radio"/>	College or beyond <input type="radio"/>	Other/unknown <input type="radio"/>

26. What will your high school completion status be when you begin college in the 2016-2017 school year?	High school diploma. Answer question 27. <input type="radio"/>	Homeschooled. Skip to question 28 <input type="radio"/>
	General Educational Development (GED) certificate or state certificate. Skip to question 28. <input type="radio"/>	None of the above. Skip to question 28 <input type="radio"/>

27. What is the name of the high school where you received or will receive your high school diploma?  
Enter the complete high school name, and the city and state where the high school is located.

High School Name	<input style="width: 400px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	STATE	<input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
High School City	<input style="width: 400px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 40px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

28. Will you have your first bachelor's degree before you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

Yes  1 No  2

29. What will your grade level be when you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

- Never attended college and 1st year undergraduate .....  0
- Attended college before and 1st year undergraduate .....  1
- 2nd year undergraduate/sophomore .....  2
- 3rd year undergraduate/junior .....  3
- 4th year undergraduate/senior .....  4
- 5th year/other undergraduate .....  5
- 1st year graduate/professional .....  6
- Continuing graduate/professional or beyond .....  7

30. What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

- 1st bachelor's degree .....  1
- 2nd bachelor's degree .....  2
- Associate degree (occupational or technical program) .....  3
- Associate degree (general education or transfer program) .....  4
- Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of less than two years) .....  5
- Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of two or more years) .....  6
- Teaching credential (nondegree program) .....  7
- Graduate or professional degree .....  8
- Other/undecided .....  9

31. Are you interested in being considered for work-study?

Yes  1 No  2 Don't know  3

## Step Two (Student):

Answer questions 32–58 about yourself (the student). If you were never married or are separated, divorced or widowed, answer only about yourself. If you are married or remarried as of today, include information about your spouse.

32. For 2015, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 33?

- I have already completed my return .....  1
- I will file but have not yet completed my return .....  2
- I'm not going to file. **Skip to question 39.**  3

33. What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2015?

- IRS 1040 .....  1
- IRS 1040A or 1040EZ .....  2
- A foreign tax return. **See Notes page 9** .....  3
- A tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory, or Freely Associated State. **See Notes page 9** .....  4

34. For 2015, what is or will be your tax filing status according to your tax return?

- Single .....  1
- Head of household .....  4
- Married—filed joint return .....  2
- Married—filed separate return .....  3
- Qualifying widow(er) .....  5
- Don't know .....  6

35. If you have filed or will file a 1040, were you eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ?  
**See Notes page 9.**

Yes  1 No  2 Don't know  3

For questions 36–45, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply to you, enter 0. Report whole dollar amounts with no cents.

36. What was your (and spouse's) adjusted gross income for 2015? Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.

\$

37. Enter your (and spouse's) income tax for 2015. Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 56 minus line 46; 1040A—line 28 minus line 36; or 1040EZ—line 10.

\$

38. Enter your (and spouse's) exemptions for 2015. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or Form 1040A—line 6d. For Form 1040EZ, **see Notes page 9.**

Questions 39 and 40 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2015. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on the tax return selected in question 33: IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 (Code A) of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1. If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

39. How much did you earn from working in 2015?

\$

40. How much did your spouse earn from working in 2015?

\$

41. As of today, what is your (and spouse's) total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts? **Don't include** student financial aid.

\$

42. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse's) investments, including real estate? **Don't include** the home you live in. **See Notes page 9.**

\$

43. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse's) current businesses and/or investment farms? **Don't include** a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. **See Notes page 9.**

\$

**44. Student's 2015 Additional Financial Information** (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)

- a. Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from IRS Form 1040—line 50 or 1040A—line 33. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. **Don't include** support for children in your household, as reported in question 95. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- c. Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- d. Taxable college grant and scholarship aid **reported to the IRS in your adjusted gross income**. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- e. Combat pay or special combat pay. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in your adjusted gross income. **Don't include** untaxed combat pay. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- f. Earnings from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**45. Student's 2015 Untaxed Income** (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)

- a. Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H and S. **Don't include** amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits). \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28 + line 32 or 1040A—line 17. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- c. Child support received for any of your children. **Don't include** foster care or adoption payments. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- d. Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- e. Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A—lines (11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- f. Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A—lines (12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). **Don't include** the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- h. Veterans noneducation benefits, such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- i. Other untaxed income not reported in items 45a through 45h, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc. Also include the untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040—line 25. **Don't include** extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on special fuels. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
- j. Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See Notes page 9.

**Step Three (Student):** Answer the questions in this step to determine if you will need to provide parental information. Once you answer **"Yes" to any** of the questions in this step, skip Step Four and go to Step Five on page 8.

- 46. Were you born before January 1, 1993? ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 47. As of today, are you married? (Also answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced.) ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 48. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)? ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 49. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? **See Notes page 9.** .... Yes  1 No  2
- 50. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? **See Notes page 9.** ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 51. Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017? ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 52. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2017? ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 53. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 54. As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor? **See Notes page 10.** ... Yes  1 No  2
- 55. Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 56. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 57. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  1 No  2
- 58. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  1 No  2





For questions 85–94, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0. Report whole dollar amounts with no cents.

85. What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2015? Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

86. Enter your parents' income tax for 2015. Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 56 minus line 46; 1040A—line 28 minus line 36; or 1040EZ—line 10. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

87. Enter your parents' exemptions for 2015. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or on Form 1040A—line 6d. For Form 1040EZ, see Notes page 9. 

--	--

Questions 88 and 89 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2015. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on the tax return selected in question 81: IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 (Code A) of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1. If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation. Report the information for the parent listed in questions 61-64 in question 88 and the information for the parent listed in questions 65-68 in question 89.

88. How much did Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working in 2015? \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

89. How much did Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working in 2015? \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

90. As of today, what is your parents' total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts? Don't include student financial aid. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

91. As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' investments, including real estate? Don't include the home in which your parents live. See Notes page 9. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

92. As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' current businesses and/or investment farms? Don't include a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. See Notes page 9. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

93. Parents' 2015 Additional Financial Information (Enter the amounts for your parent[s].)

a. Education credits (American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit) from IRS Form 1040—line 50 or 1040A—line 33. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your parents' household, as reported in question 73. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

c. Your parents' taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

d. Your parents' taxable college grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your parents' adjusted gross income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

e. Combat pay or special combat pay. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in your parents' adjusted gross income. Do not enter untaxed combat pay. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

f. Earnings from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

94. Parents' 2015 Untaxed Income (Enter the amounts for your parent[s].)

a. Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H and S. Don't include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits). \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28 + line 32 or 1040A—line 17. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

c. Child support received for any of your parents' children. Don't include foster care or adoption payments. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

d. Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

e. Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A—lines (11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

f. Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A—lines (12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Don't include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

h. Veterans noneducation benefits, such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

i. Other untaxed income not reported in items 94a through 94h, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc. Also include the untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040—line 25. Don't include extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on special fuels. \$ 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Step Five (Student):** Complete this step only if you (the student) answered "Yes" to any questions in Step Three.

95. How many people are in your household?  
 Include:  
 • yourself (and your spouse),  
 • your children, if you will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, even if they do not live with you, and  
 • other people if they now live with you, you provide more than half of their support and you will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

96. How many people in your (and your spouse's) household (from question 95) will be college students between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017? Always count yourself as a college student. Do not include family members who are in U.S. military service academies. Include others only if they will attend, at least half-time in 2016-2017, a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.

In 2014 or 2015, did you (or your spouse) or anyone in your household (from question 95) receive benefits from any of the federal programs listed? Mark all that apply. Answering these questions will not reduce eligibility for student aid or these programs. TANF may have a different name in your state. Call 1-800-433-3243 to find out the name of the state's program.

97. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)     98. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)     99. Free or Reduced Price Lunch     100. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)     101. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

102. As of today, are you (or your spouse) a dislocated worker? See Notes page 10.    Yes  <sup>1</sup>    No  <sup>2</sup>    Don't know  <sup>3</sup>

**Step Six (Student):** Indicate which colleges you want to receive your FAFSA information.

Enter the six-digit federal school code and your housing plans for each college or school you wish to receive your FAFSA information. You can find the school codes at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) or by calling 1-800-433-3243. If you cannot obtain a code, write in the complete name, address, city and state of the college. All of the information you included on your FAFSA, with the exception of the list of colleges, will be sent to each of the colleges you listed. In addition, all of your FAFSA information, including the list of colleges, will be sent to your state student grant agency. For federal student aid purposes, it does not matter in what order you list your selected schools. However, the order in which you list schools may affect your eligibility for state aid. Check with your state grant agency for more information. To find out how to have more colleges receive your FAFSA information, read *What is the FAFSA?* on page 2.

103. a	1ST FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	OR	NAME OF COLLEGE ADDRESS AND CITY	[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	STATE [ ][ ]	HOUSING PLANS <input type="radio"/>
						103. b on campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup>
						with parent <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup>
						off campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup>
103. c	2ND FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	OR	NAME OF COLLEGE ADDRESS AND CITY	[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	STATE [ ][ ]	103. d on campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup>
						with parent <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup>
						off campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup>
103. e	3RD FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	OR	NAME OF COLLEGE ADDRESS AND CITY	[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	STATE [ ][ ]	103. f on campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup>
						with parent <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup>
						off campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup>
103. g	4TH FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	OR	NAME OF COLLEGE ADDRESS AND CITY	[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]	STATE [ ][ ]	103. h on campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>1</sup>
						with parent <input type="radio"/> <sup>2</sup>
						off campus <input type="radio"/> <sup>3</sup>

**Step Seven (Student and Parent):** Read, sign and date.

If you are the student, by signing this application you certify that you (1) will use federal and/or state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education, (2) are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it, (3) do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it, (4) will notify your college if you default on a federal student loan and (5) will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one college for the same period of time.

If you are the parent or the student, by signing this application 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. This information may include U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file. Also, you certify that you understand that **the Secretary of Education has the authority to verify information reported on this application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies.** If you sign any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a personal identification number (PIN), username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by that PIN, username and password, and/or other credential, and have not disclosed that PIN, username and password, and/or other credential to anyone else. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

104. Date this form was completed  
 MONTH DAY 2016  or 2017

105. Student (Sign below)  
 [Signature line]

Parent (A parent from Step Four sign below.)  
 [Signature line]

If you or your family paid a fee for someone to fill out this form or to advise you on how to fill it out, that person must complete this part.

Preparer's name, firm and address  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

106. Preparer's Social Security Number (or 107)  
 [ ][ ][ ] - [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

107. Employer ID number (or 106)  
 [ ][ ] - [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

108. Preparer's signature and date  
 [Signature line]

COLLEGE USE ONLY      FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE

Homeless  <sup>4</sup>      [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ]

D/O  <sup>1</sup>      Youth Determination  <sup>4</sup>

FAA Signature  
 [Signature line]

DATA ENTRY USE ONLY:     P     \*     L     E

### Notes for question 8 (page 3)

Enter your Social Security Number (SSN) as it appears on your Social Security card. If you are a resident of the Freely Associated States (i.e., the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Federated States of Micronesia) and were issued an identification number beginning with “666” when submitting a FAFSA previously, enter that number here. If you are a first-time applicant from the Freely Associated States, enter “666” in the first three boxes of the SSN field and leave the remaining six positions blank and we will create an identification number to be used for federal student aid purposes.

### Notes for questions 14 and 15 (page 3)

If you are an eligible noncitizen, write in your eight- or nine-digit Alien Registration Number. Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are (1) a permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551); (2) a conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C); (3) the holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: “Refugee,” “Asylum Granted,” “Parolee” (I-94 confirms that you were paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), T-Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.) or “Cuban-Haitian Entrant;” or (4) the holder of a valid certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services showing a designation of “Victim of human trafficking.”

If you are in the U.S. and have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), select “No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen.” You will not be eligible for federal student aid. If you have a Social Security Number but are not a citizen or an eligible noncitizen, including if you have been granted DACA, you should still complete the FAFSA because you may be eligible for state or college aid.

### Notes for questions 16 and 17 (page 3)

Report your marital status as of the date you sign your FAFSA. If your marital status changes after you sign your FAFSA, check with the **financial aid office at the college**.

### Notes for questions 21 and 22 (page 3)

To be eligible for federal student aid, male citizens and male immigrants residing in the U.S. aged 18 through 25 are required to register with the Selective Service System, with limited exceptions. This requirement applies to any person assigned the sex of male at birth. The Selective Service System and the registration requirement for males preserve America’s ability to provide resources in an emergency to the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard). For more information about the Selective Service System, visit [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov). Forms are available at your local U.S. Post Office.

### Notes for questions 33 (page 4) and 81 (page 6)

If you filed or will file a foreign tax return, a tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory (e.g., Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swain’s Island or the Northern Marianas Islands) or one of the Freely Associated States, use the information from that return to fill out this form. If you filed a foreign return, convert all monetary units to U.S. dollars, using the published exchange rate in effect for the date nearest to today’s date. To view the daily exchange rates, go to [www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current](http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current).

### Notes for questions 35 (page 4) and 83 (page 6)

In general, a person is eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes less than \$100,000, does not itemize deductions, does not receive income from his or her own business or farm and does not receive alimony. A person is not eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes \$100,000 or more, itemizes deductions, receives income from his or her own business or farm, is self-employed, receives alimony or is required to file Schedule D for capital gains. If you filed a 1040 only to claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit, and you would have otherwise been eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ, answer “Yes” to this question. If you filed a 1040 and were not required to file a tax return, answer “Yes” to this question.

### Notes for questions 38 (page 4) and 87 (page 7) — Notes for those who filed a 1040EZ

On the 1040EZ, if a person didn’t check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she is single or has never been married, or 02 if he or she is married. If a person checked either the “you” or “spouse” box on line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions (\$4,000 equals one exemption).

### Notes for questions 42 and 43 (page 4), 45j (page 5), and 91 and 92 (page 7)

Net worth means the current value, as of today, of investments, businesses, and/or investment farms, minus debts related to those same investments, businesses, and/or investment farms. When calculating net worth, use 0 for investments or properties with a negative value.

**Investments include** real estate (do not include the home in which you live), rental property (includes a unit within a family home that has its own entrance, kitchen, and bath rented to someone other than a family member), trust funds, UGMA and UTMA accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc.

**Investments also include** qualified educational benefits or education savings accounts (e.g., Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans and the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans). For a student who does not report parental information, the accounts owned by the student (and/or the student’s spouse) are reported as student investments in question 42. For a student who must report parental information, the accounts are reported as parental investments in question 91, including all accounts owned by the student and all accounts owned by the parents for any member of the household.

**Money received, or paid on your behalf**, also includes distributions to you (the student beneficiary) from a 529 plan that is owned by someone other than you or your parents (such as your grandparents, aunts, uncles, and non-custodial parents). You must include these distribution amounts in question 45j.

**Investments do not include** the home you live in, the value of life insurance, retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non-education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.) or cash, savings and checking accounts already reported in questions 41 and 90.

**Investments also do not include** UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the custodian, but not the owner.

Investment value means the current balance or market value of these investments as of today. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

**Business and/or investment farm value includes** the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Business and/or investment farm debt means only those debts for which the business or investment farm was used as collateral.

**Business value does not include** the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent or sister-in-law.

**Investment farm value does not include** the value of a family farm that you (your spouse and/or your parents) live on and operate.

### Notes for question 49 (page 5)

Answer “Yes” if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for other than state or training purposes.

Answer “No” if you are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for state or training purposes.

### Notes for question 50 (page 5)

Answer “Yes” (you are a veteran) if you (1) have engaged in active duty (including basic training) in the U.S. Armed Forces, 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, 2017.

Answer “No” (you are not a veteran) if you (1) have never engaged in active duty (including basic training) in the U.S. Armed Forces, (2) are currently a ROTC student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy, (3) are 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, 2017.

### Notes for question 53 (page 5)

Answer **"Yes"** if at any time since you turned age 13:

- You had no living parent, even if you are now adopted; or
- You were in foster care, even if you are no longer in foster care today; or
- You were a dependent or ward of the court, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court today. For federal student aid purposes, someone who is incarcerated is not considered a ward of the court.

The financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or a dependent or ward of the court.

### Notes for questions 54 and 55 (page 5)

The definition of legal guardianship does not include your parents, even if they were appointed by a court to be your guardians. You are also not considered a legal guardian of yourself.

Answer **"Yes"** if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship. Also answer **"Yes"** if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.

Answer **"No"** if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult. Also answer **"No"** and contact your school if custody was awarded by the courts and the court papers say "custody" (not "guardianship").

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that you were an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship.

### Notes for questions 56–58 (page 5)

Answer **"Yes"** if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2015, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless.

- **"Homeless"** means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing. You may be homeless if you are living in shelters, parks, motels or cars, or are temporarily living with other people because you have nowhere else to go. Also, if you are living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent you may be considered homeless even if your parent would provide support and a place to live.
- **"Unaccompanied"** means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.
- **"Youth"** means you are 21 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign this application.

Answer **"No"** if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless, or do not have a determination. However, even if you answer **"No"** to each of questions 56, 57, and 58, you should contact your college financial aid office for assistance if you are under 24 years of age and are either (1) homeless and unaccompanied or (2) at risk of being homeless, unaccompanied, and providing for your own living expenses - as your college financial aid office can determine that you are "homeless" and are not required to provide parental information.

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide a copy of the determination if you answered **"Yes"** to any of these questions.

### Notes for students unable to provide parental information on pages 6 and 7

Under very limited circumstances (for example, your parents are incarcerated; you have left home due to an abusive family environment; or you do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them), you may be able to submit your FAFSA without parental information. **If you are unable to provide parental information**, skip Steps Four and Five, and go to Step Six. Once you submit your FAFSA without parental data, **you must follow up with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend**, in order to complete your FAFSA.

### Notes for Step Four, questions 59–94 (pages 6 and 7)

Review all instructions below to determine who is considered a parent on this form:

- If your parent was never married and does not live with your other legal parent, or if your parent is widowed or not remarried, answer the questions about that parent.
- If your legal parents (biological, adoptive, or as determined by the state [for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate]) are not married to each other and **live together**, select "Unmarried and both parents living together" and provide information about both of them regardless of their gender. Do not include any person who is not married to your parent and who is not a legal or biological parent. Contact 1-800-433-3243 for assistance in completing questions 80-94.
- If your legal parents are married, select "Married or remarried." If your legal parents are divorced but living together, select "Unmarried and both parents living together." If your legal parents are separated but living together, select "Married or remarried," not "Divorced or separated."
- If your parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. (If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the past 12 months or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent.) **If this parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.**
- If your widowed parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

### Notes for questions 84 (page 6) and 102 (page 8)

In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she:

- is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation;
- has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job;
- was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or
- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and has experienced a loss of employment because of relocating due to permanent change in duty station; or
- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and is unemployed or underemployed, and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment; or
- is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the spouse, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

Except for the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces, if a person quits work, generally he or she is not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits.

Answer **"Yes"** to question 84 if your parent is a dislocated worker. Answer **"Yes"** to question 102 if you or your spouse is a dislocated worker.

Answer **"No"** to question 84 if your parent is not a dislocated worker. Answer **"No"** to question 102 if neither you nor your spouse is a dislocated worker.

Answer **"Don't know"** to question 84 if you are not sure whether your parent is a dislocated worker. Answer **"Don't know"** to question 102 if you are not sure whether you or your spouse is a dislocated worker. You can contact your financial aid office for assistance in answering these questions.

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that your parent is a dislocated worker, if you answered **"Yes"** to question 84, or that you or your spouse is a dislocated worker, if you answered **"Yes"** to question 102.