# FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA): SECTION-BY-SECTION

JACQUELYNN MOL, *SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MN*
SOLEDAD KERN, *CAPELLA UNIVERSITY*

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2014-2015

# FAFSA4CASTER

- Used to estimate Federal Stafford Loans and Federal Expected Family Contribution
- No student or parent social security or tax information is required

FAFSA4CASTER.ED.GOV

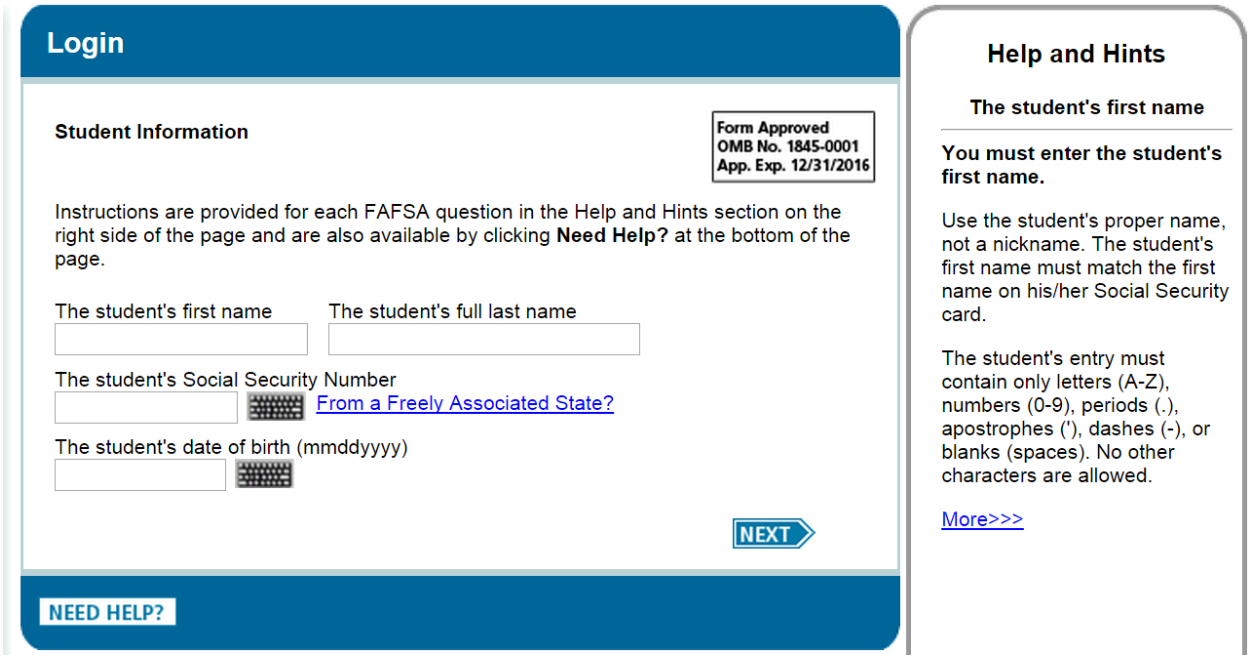
# FAFSA FILING OPTIONS

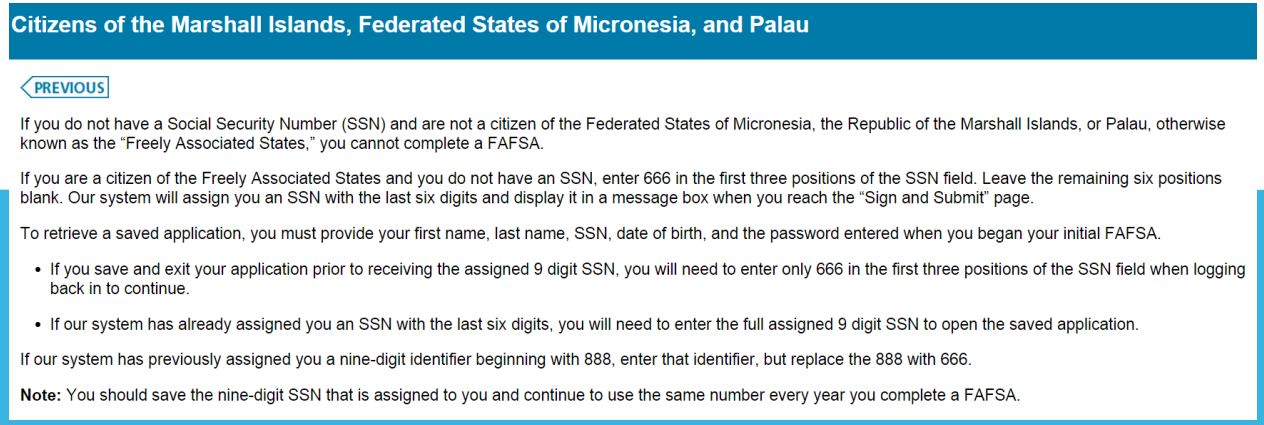
- File electronically at: **FAFSA.ed.gov**
  - Note: this is a FREE application
- Paper Application
  - Up to school whether applications can be sent to school or directly to Department of Education (DoED)

Other Possible Financial Aid Applications:

- State
- Institutional
- Military

# FAFSA: LOGIN


Login
Student Information
Form Approved
OMB No. 1845-0001
App. Exp. 12/31/2016
Instructions are provided for each FAFSA question in the Help and Hints section on the right side of the page and are also available by clicking Need Help? at the bottom of the page.
The student's first name
The student's full last name
The student's Social Security Number
From a Freely Associated State?
The student's date of birth (mmddyyyy)
NEXT
NEED HELP?
Help and Hints
The student's first name
You must enter the student's first name.
Use the student's proper name, not a nickname. The student's first name must match the first name on his/her Social Security card.
The student's entry must contain only letters (A-Z), numbers (0-9), periods (.), apostrophes ('), dashes (-), or blanks (spaces). No other characters are allowed.
More>>>


Citizens of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau
PREVIOUS
If you do not have a Social Security Number (SSN) and are not a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or Palau, otherwise known as the "Freely Associated States," you cannot complete a FAFSA.
If you are a citizen of the Freely Associated States and you do not have an SSN, enter 666 in the first three positions of the SSN field. Leave the remaining six positions blank. Our system will assign you an SSN with the last six digits and display it in a message box when you reach the "Sign and Submit" page.
To retrieve a saved application, you must provide your first name, last name, SSN, date of birth, and the password entered when you began your initial FAFSA.
If you save and exit your application prior to receiving the assigned 9 digit SSN, you will need to enter only 666 in the first three positions of the SSN field when logging back in to continue.
If our system has already assigned you an SSN with the last six digits, you will need to enter the full assigned 9 digit SSN to open the saved application.
If our system has previously assigned you a nine-digit identifier beginning with 888, enter that identifier, but replace the 888 with 666.
Note: You should save the nine-digit SSN that is assigned to you and continue to use the same number every year you complete a FAFSA.

# FAFSA: LOGIN

2015-2016 | 2014-2015

**We did not find a 2015-2016 FAFSA on file for you.**

However, we see that you completed a 2014-2015 FAFSA or submitted a *FAFSA4caster*. Information from that application can be used to renew your 2015-2016 FAFSA.

FAFSA RENEWAL

OR

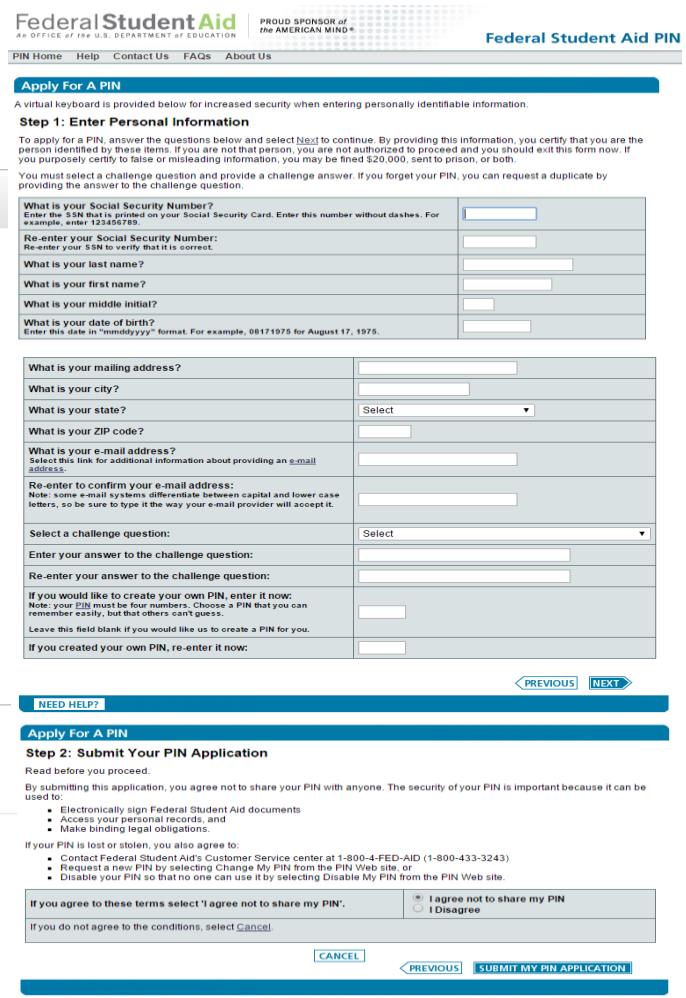
You can also start a new 2015-2016 FAFSA.

START NEW FAFSA

## Federal Student Aid PIN

**PIN Status: Active** Request A Duplicate PIN

You can use your PIN to sign your FAFSA electronically or make corrections to your FAFSA.



Federal Student Aid — An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®

Federal Student Aid PIN

PIN Home | Help | Contact Us | FAQs | About Us

**Apply For A PIN**

A virtual keyboard is provided below for increased security when entering personally identifiable information.

**Step 1: Enter Personal Information**

To apply for a PIN, answer the questions below and select Next to continue. By providing this information, you certify that you are the person identified by these items. If you are not that person, you are not authorized to proceed and you should exit this form now. If you purposely certify to false or misleading information, you may be fined $20,000, sent to prison, or both.

You must select a challenge question and provide a challenge answer. If you forget your PIN, you can request a duplicate by providing the answer to the challenge question.

| | |
|---|---|
| What is your Social Security Number? Enter the SSN that is printed on your Social Security Card. Enter this number without dashes. For example, enter 123456789. | |
| Re-enter your Social Security Number: Re-enter your SSN to verify that it is correct. | |
| What is your last name? | |
| What is your first name? | |
| What is your middle initial? | |
| What is your date of birth? Enter this date in "mmddyyyy" format. For example, 08171975 for August 17, 1975. | |

| | |
|---|---|
| What is your mailing address? | |
| What is your city? | |
| What is your state? | Select |
| What is your ZIP code? | |
| What is your e-mail address? Select this link for additional information about providing an e-mail address. | |
| Re-enter to confirm your e-mail address: Note: some e-mail systems differentiate between capital and lower case letters, so be sure to type it the way your e-mail provider will accept it. | |
| Select a challenge question: | Select |
| Enter your answer to the challenge question: | |
| Re-enter your answer to the challenge question: | |
| If you would like to create your own PIN, enter it now: Note: your PIN must be four numbers. Choose a PIN that you can remember easily, but that others can't guess. Leave this field blank if you would like us to create a PIN for you. | |
| If you created your own PIN, re-enter it now: | |

PREVIOUS NEXT

NEED HELP?

**Apply For A PIN**

**Step 2: Submit Your PIN Application**

Read before you proceed.

By submitting this application, you agree not to share your PIN with anyone. The security of your PIN is important because it can be used to:

- Electronically sign Federal Student Aid documents
- Access your personal records, and
- Make binding legal obligations.

If your PIN is lost or stolen, you also agree to:

- Contact Federal Student Aid's Customer Service center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
- Request a new PIN by selecting Change My PIN from the PIN Web site, or
- Disable your PIN so that no one can use it by selecting Disable My PIN from the PIN Web site.

| | |
|---|---|
| If you agree to these terms select 'I agree not to share my PIN'. | I agree not to share my PIN / I Disagree |
| If you do not agree to the conditions, select Cancel. | |

CANCEL PREVIOUS SUBMIT MY PIN APPLICATION

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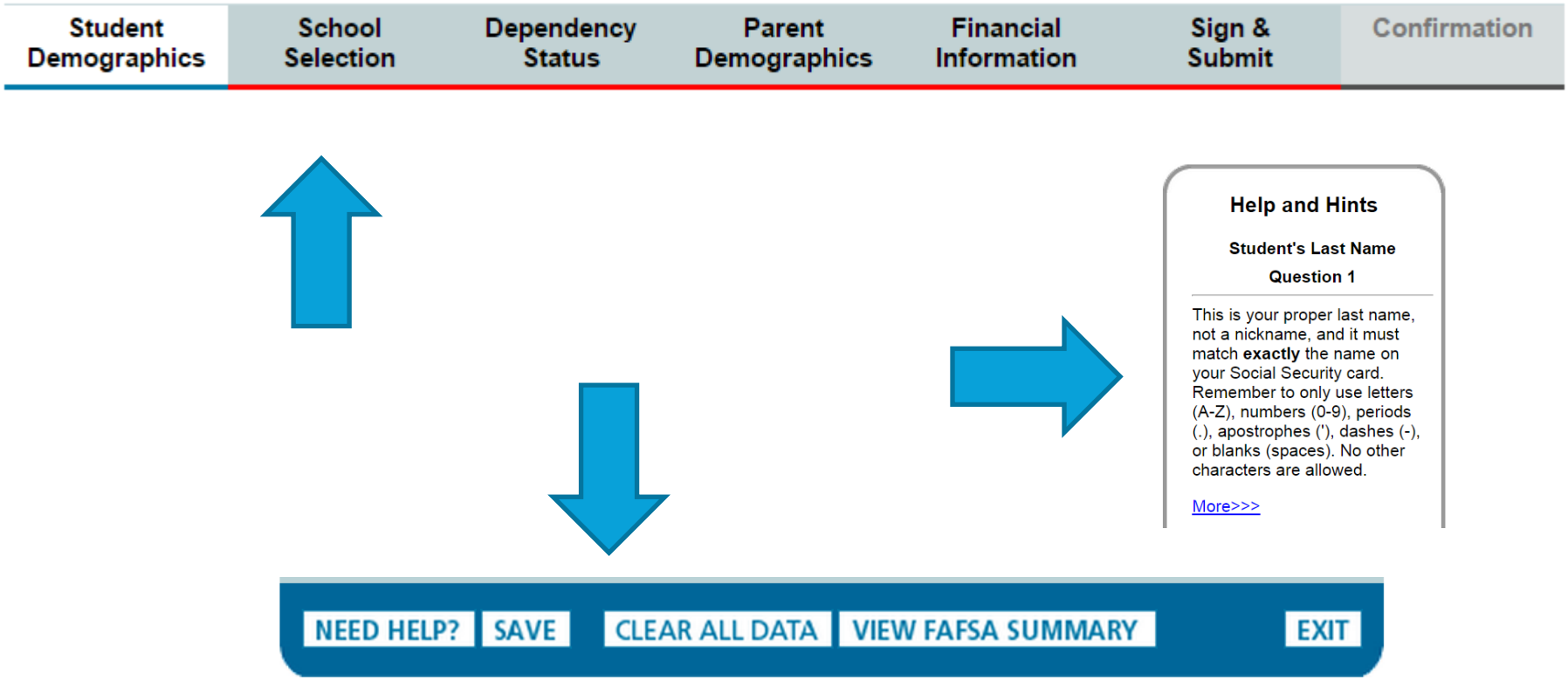
# FAFSA: GENERAL LAYOUT



# FAFSA SECTION-BY-SECTION

| Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

- Student Demographics
- School Selection
- Dependency Status
- Parent Demographics (if applicable)
- Financial Information
- Sign & Submit
- Confirmation

# FAFSA: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

STUDENT

**Student Demographic Information**

Your last name | Your first name | Your middle initial

Your Social Security Number

Your date of birth (mmddyyyy)

Are you male or female?
Male Female

Your permanent mailing address (include apt. number)

Your city (and country if not U.S.) | Your state
Select

Your ZIP code

Have you lived in your state for at least 5 years?
Yes No

Your permanent telephone number

Your e-mail address

**Help and Hints**

**Student's Marital Status**

**Question 16**

You must select the answer that describes your marital status **as of the day you will sign your FAFSA**. If your marital status changes after you submit your FAFSA, check with your college's financial aid office.

What is your marital status as of today?

Select

- Select
- I am single
- I am married/remarried
- I am separated
- I am divorced or widowed

ormation that you want to provide?

PREVIOUS NEXT

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# FAFSA: STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

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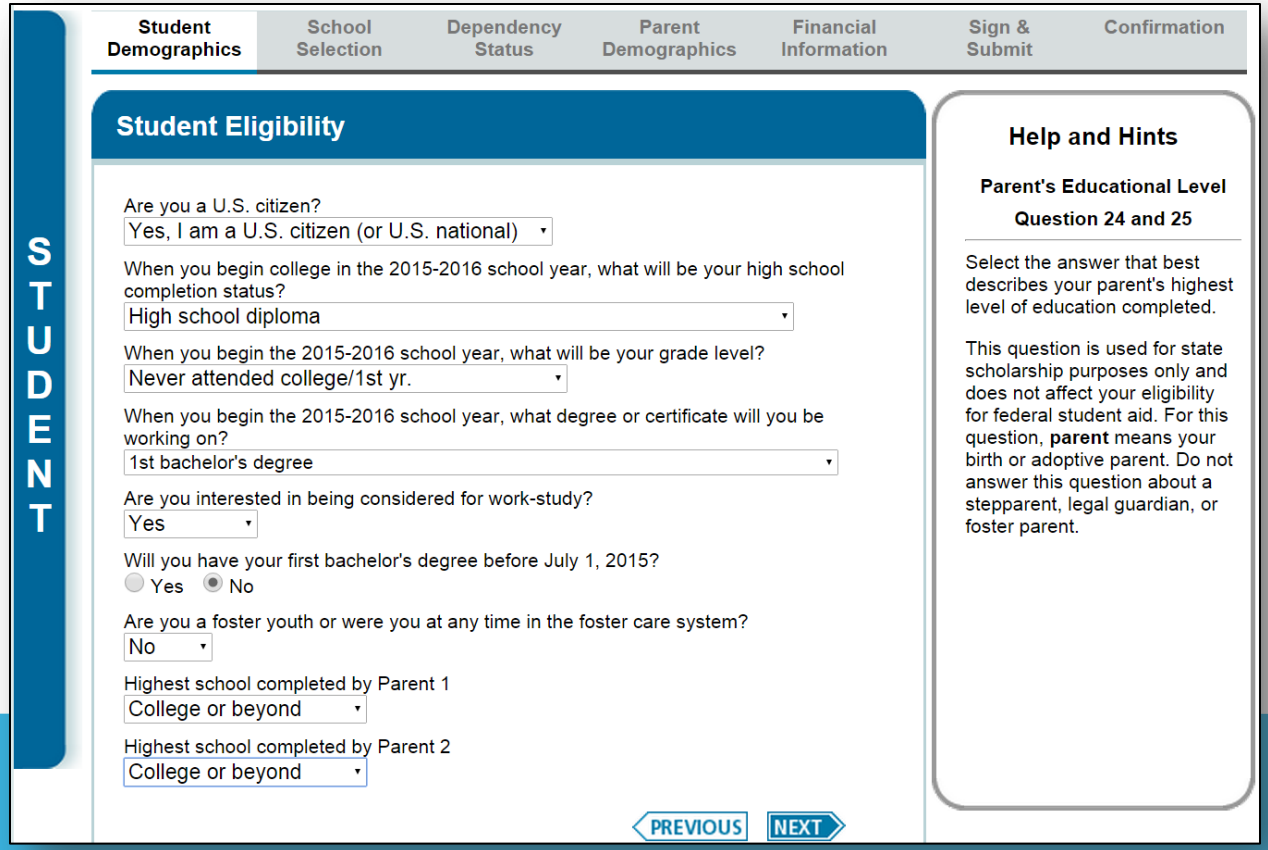


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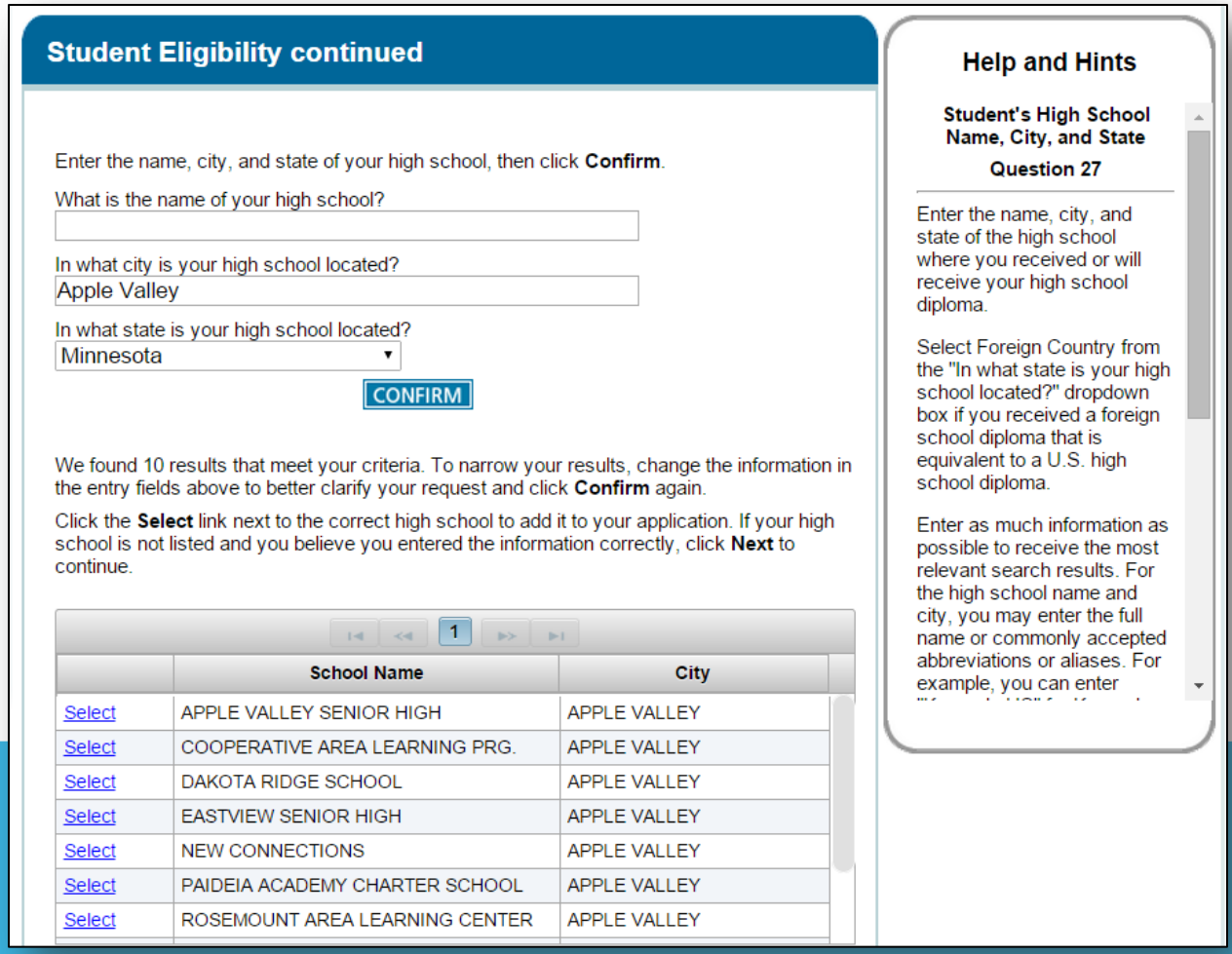


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# FAFSA: SCHOOL SELECTION

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

You can add up to 10 colleges to your FAFSA. If you know your college's school code, use the option to the right to search. If you need help finding your college, use the state (required), city (optional), and school name (optional) fields to begin your search.

All of the information you report on the FAFSA will be sent to each college listed, including the names of the other colleges listed. If you don't want this information sent to a particular college, do not list that school on your FAFSA.

State Select

City (optional)

School Name (optional)

SEARCH Search Tips

OR

Federal School Code

SEARCH

Select a school from the Search Results table and click **Add >>** to add a school to the Selected Schools table.

**Search Results:** 1

Sort By: Best Match | School Name

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
WINONA, MN
Federal School Code: 002380

ADD >>

**Selected Schools**

Select up to 10 schools

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
WINONA, MN
Federal School Code: 002380 Remove

VIEW SELECTED SCHOOL INFORMATION

| School Name | Federal School Code | Housing Plans | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY | 002380 | On Campus | Remove |

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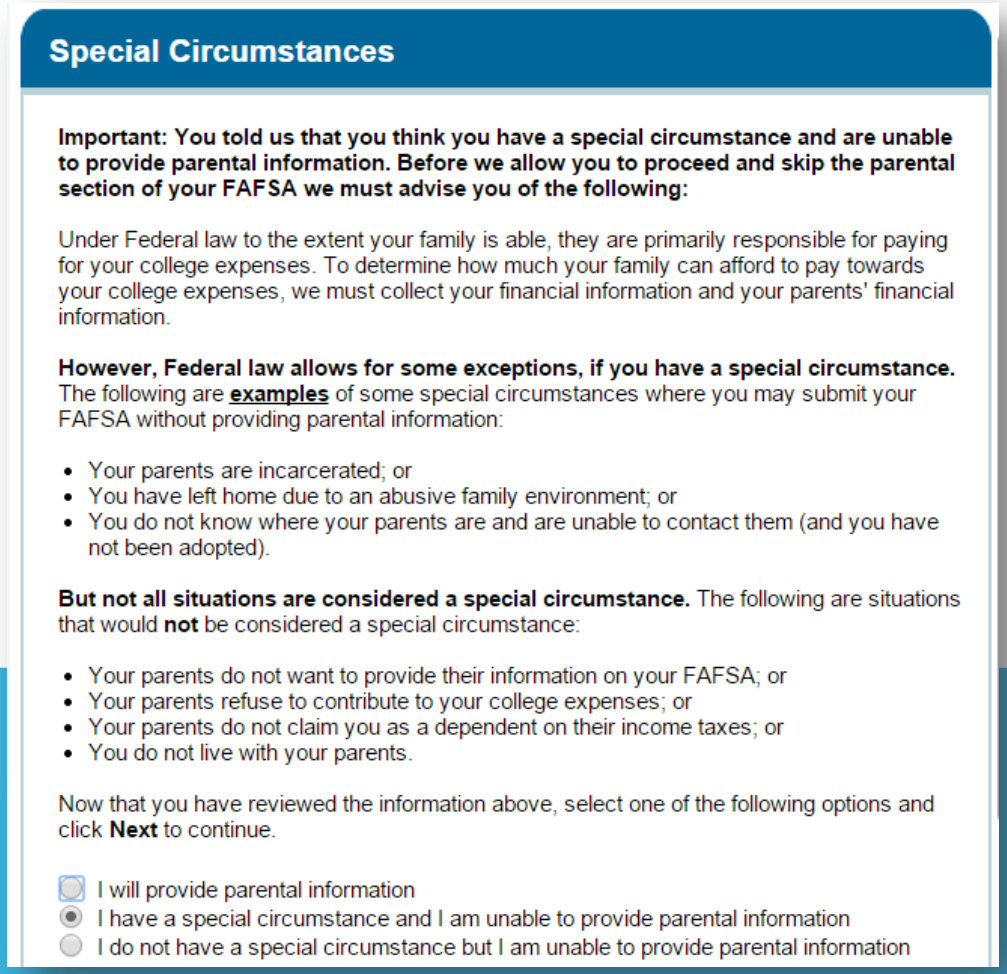
# FAFSA: DEPENDENCY STATUS

| Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Determining Your Dependency Status Video



## Special Circumstances

**Important: You told us that you think you have a special circumstance and are unable to provide parental information. Before we allow you to proceed and skip the parental section of your FAFSA we must advise you of the following:**

Under Federal law to the extent your family is able, they are primarily responsible for paying for your college expenses. To determine how much your family can afford to pay towards your college expenses, we must collect your financial information and your parents' financial information.

**However, Federal law allows for some exceptions, if you have a special circumstance.** The following are **examples** of some special circumstances where you may submit your FAFSA without providing parental information:

- Your parents are incarcerated; or
- 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 (and you have not been adopted).

**But not all situations are considered a special circumstance.** The following are situations that would **not** be considered a special circumstance:

- Your parents do not want to provide their information on your FAFSA; or
- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- Your parents do not claim you as a dependent on their income taxes; or
- You do not live with your parents.

Now that you have reviewed the information above, select one of the following options and click **Next** to continue.

- ( ) I will provide parental information
- (•) I have a special circumstance and I am unable to provide parental information
- ( ) I do not have a special circumstance but I am unable to provide parental information

# FAFSA: PARENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | **Parent Demographics** | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

As of today, what is the marital status of your legal parents (biological and/or adoptive)?
Married or Remarried

When did your parents get married or remarried? Enter the month and year. (mmyyyy)
01/1980

What is your Parent 1 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) Social Security Number?
123-45-6789

What is your Parent 1 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) last name?
Doe

What is your Parent 1 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) first initial?
A

What is your Parent 1 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) date of birth? (mmddyyyy)
01/01/1960

What is your Parent 2 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) Social Security Number?
123-45-6789

What is your Parent 2 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) last name?
Doe

What is your Parent 2 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) first initial?
B

What is your Parent 2 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) date of birth? (mmddyyyy)
01/01/1960

Your parents' e-mail address

Have your parents lived in Minnesota for at least 5 years?
(•) Yes ( ) No

Your parents' number of family members in 2015-2016 (household size)

If you are not sure who is considered a family member, click **Household Size** to answer the questions on the worksheet.
3 HOUSEHOLD SIZE

How many people in your parents' household will be college students between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016? Do not include your parents.
1

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# FAFSA: FINANCIAL INFORMATION (PARENT)

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | **Financial Information** | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

## Parent Tax Information

- Application was successfully saved.

For 2014, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?
Already completed

For 2014, what is your parents' tax filing status according to their tax return?
Married-Filed Joint Return

## Parent Financial Information

What type of income tax return did your parents file for 2014?
IRS 1040

What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2014? This amount is found on IRS Form 1040-line 37.
$ 20,000 .00 INCOME ESTIMATOR

How much did your Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2014? This amount is your Parent 1 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) portion of IRS Form 1040-lines 7+12+18.
$ 10,000 .00

How much did your Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2014? This amount is your Parent 2 (father's/mother's/stepparent's) portion of IRS Form 1040-lines 7+12+18.
$ 10,000 .00

As of today, is either of your parents a dislocated worker?
No

In 2013 or 2014, did your parents receive benefits from any of the federal benefits programs listed below? Check all that apply or check **None of the above**.

- ☐ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- ☐ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ☐ Free or Reduced Price Lunch
- ☐ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- ☐ Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- ☑ None of the above

You indicated that your parents filed an IRS 1040. Were they eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ?
No

## Parent Financial Information continued

Enter the amount of your parents' income tax for 2014. This amount is found on IRS Form 1040-line 56.
$ 20,000 .00

Enter your parents' exemptions for 2014. This amount is found on IRS Form 1040-line 6d.
2

Did your parents have any of the following items in 2014? Check all that apply and provide amounts.

**Additional Financial Information**

- ☐ *American Opportunity Tax Credit or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit*
- ☐ Child support paid
- ☐ Taxable earnings from Work-study, Assistantships or Fellowships
- ☐ Grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS
- ☐ Combat pay or special combat pay
- ☐ Cooperative education program earnings

**Untaxed Income**

- ☐ Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans
- ☐ IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and Keogh
- ☐ Child support received
- ☐ Tax exempt interest income
- ☐ Untaxed portions of IRA distributions
- ☐ Untaxed portions of pensions
- ☐ Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to military, clergy, and others
- ☐ Veterans noneducation benefits
- ☐ Other untaxed income not reported such as workers' compensation or disability

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# FAFSA: FINANCIAL INFORMATION (STUDENT)

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

## Student Tax Information

For 2014, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?

Not going to file

PREVIOUS NEXT

## Student Financial Information

How much did you earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2014?

$ 0 .00

PREVIOUS NEXT

## Student Financial Information continued

Did you have any of the following items in 2014? Check all that apply and provide amounts.

**Additional Financial Information**

- ☐ Child support paid
- ☐ Taxable earnings from Work-study, Assistantships or Fellowships
- ☐ Grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS
- ☐ Combat pay or special combat pay
- ☐ Cooperative education program earnings

**Untaxed Income**

- ☐ Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans
- ☐ Child support received
- ☐ Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to military, clergy, and others
- ☐ Veterans noneducation benefits
- ☐ Other untaxed income not reported such as workers' compensation or disability
- ☐ Money received or paid on your behalf

As of today, what is your total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts?

$ 0 .00

As of today, what is the net worth of your investments, including real estate (not your home)?

$ 0 .00

As of today, what is the net worth of your current businesses and/or investment farms?

$ 0 .00

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# FAFSA: IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | **Financial Information** | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

For 2013, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return? # Already completed

For 2013, what is your tax filing status according to your tax return? Single

**You may be able to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to view and transfer your tax information from the IRS.**

Did you file an amended tax return?
Yes No

Did you file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return?
Yes No

Did you file your taxes electronically in the last 3 weeks (or by mail in the last 11 weeks)?
Yes No

Based on your response, we recommend that you transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA.

LINK TO IRS

IRS.gov

Return to FAFSA | Log Out | Help

Español

## Get My Federal Income Tax Information

See our Privacy Notice regarding our request for your personal information.

**Enter the following information from your 2013 Federal Income Tax Return.** Required fields *

| | |
|---|---|
| First Name * | |
| Last Name * | |
| Social Security Number * | ***-**-**** |
| Date of Birth * | / / |
| Filing Status * | Single |
| **Address** - Must match your **2013** Federal Income Tax Return. | |
| Street Address * | |
| P.O. Box (Required if entered on your tax return) | |
| Apt. Number (Required if entered on your tax return) | |
| Country * | United States |
| City, Town or Post Office * | |
| State/U.S. Territory * | Select One |
| ZIP Code * | |

Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.

By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.

Return to FAFSA | Submit

IRS Privacy Policy

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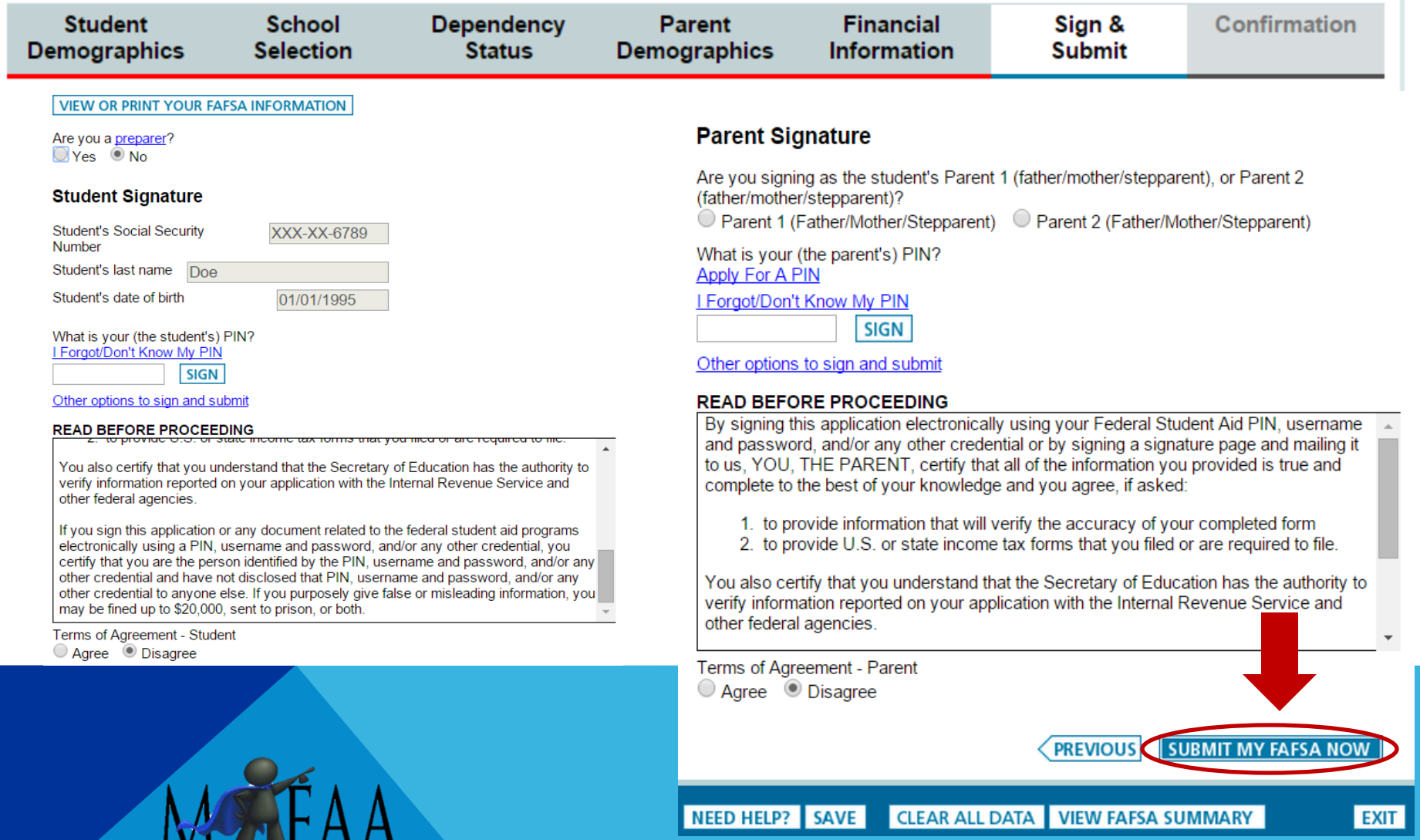
*ONCE A STUDENT/PARENT USES THE IRS DATA RETREIVAL TOOL, THEY MUST NOT MAKE ANY CHANGES TO THAT INFO ON THE FAFSA*

# FAFSA: SIGN & SUBMIT

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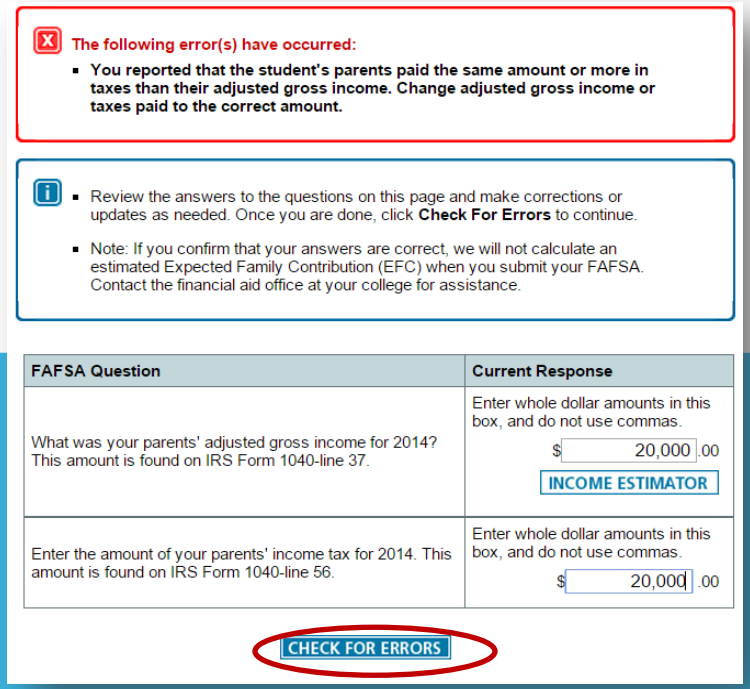
# FAFSA: TEST DRIVE

FAFSA.ed.gov

# COMMON MISTAKES

- FREE Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Some websites charge to help you fill out the FAFSA (information will, eventually, end up with Department of Education)
- Marital Status
  - As of the 1st day you file the FAFSA for the aid year
  - Contact school if wanting to update for any reason (marriage/divorce)
- Household Size
  - Must include student
  - Dependents: anyone student (or student's parent) will provide support of more than 50% during aid year
- Adjusted Gross Income = Taxes Paid →
- IRS tax data transferred, then changed
- Saving vs. Submitting
  - Must re-submit FAFSA after any change is made

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