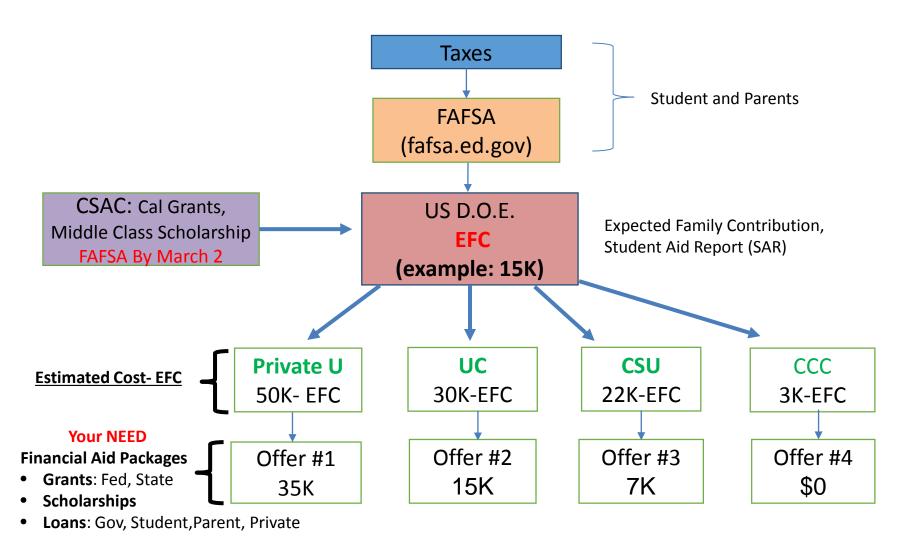
Financial Aid and the FAFSA





Some starting points

- FAFSA will be based on "prior-prior" year taxes: 2015. There is no option to use 2016
- There <u>is</u> a benefit to completing it sooner rather than later.
- Most deadlines will not change
- If you do FAFSA for your child be careful to...
- Agree on an email for all college-related issues*
- Be precise and consistent!

Common Errors

- Assuming, "We make too much \$, there is no point in doing the FAFSA."
- The parent on the FAFSA does NOT have to be the parent claiming the student on their taxes
- Completing the wrong year FAFSA. Make sure you complete the 2017-18 FAFSA
- SS #, DOB, other details in error

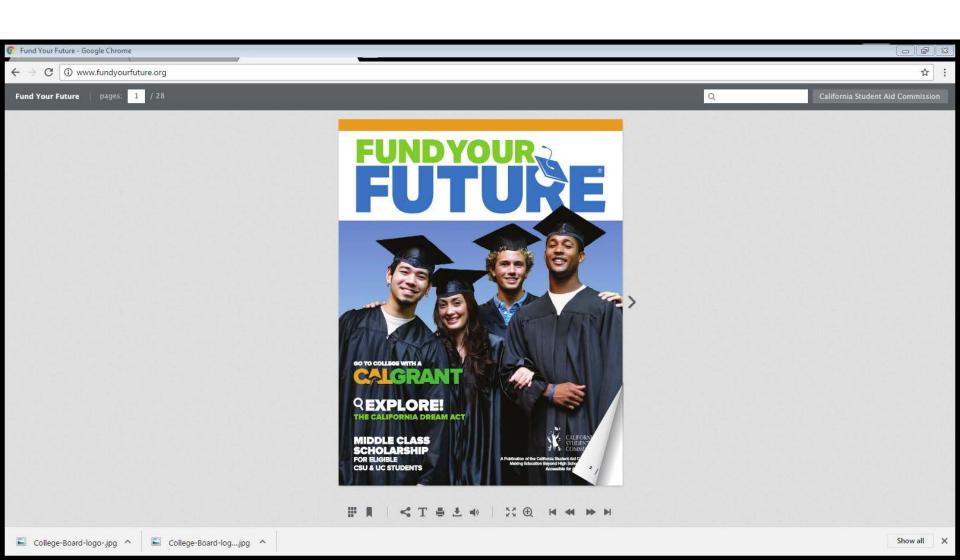
CSS PROFILE



- An additional tool for colleges to determine how much of *their* private funds a student may receive
- There is a fee; \$25 for first report, \$16 add'l
- there is a fee waiver for families under \$40k or if they received an SAT fee waiver
- Mostly very selective private colleges:
 Stanford, USC, Ivys
- First come-first served

Resources

- FUND YOUR FUTURE Magazine style comprehensive source for college financial aid. Download and view: csac.ca.gov (publications)
 OR www.fundyourfuture.org OR PHS website in Counseling and Guidance Financial Aid
- collegescorecard.ed.gov: cost comparisons
- College Board
 - Financial Aid Essentials
 - Financial Aid 101 Big Future; good checklist



Other sources

- Scholarships*
 - Fastweb.com and other free, non-profits
 - PHS website
 - Ask universities if they have a separate application for their private funds and scholarships
 - Your employers

*A private scholarship may be deducted from aid offered by the college of attendance

Cal Grants

- There are three Cal Grants available to students, different Cal Grant types have different requirements and sometimes target different student populations.
- The Cal Grant program has three components. Cal Grant A, B, and C. Each of these programs has different qualifying factors. The GPA submitted has an impact on qualifying for A and/or B. In order to qualify for all three programs the student has to have financial need as well as be under the income and asset ceiling reported for 2017-18. Students need to be enrolled in specific programs in order to be eligible for certain Cal Grants.
- Award amounts for each Cal Grant program vary from year to year based on the year's budget.
 - To apply: FAFSA and GPA Verification



Basic Eligibility Requirements

Federal Requirements and Additional Cal Grant Requirements

- ✓ U.S. Citizen, Eligible Non-Citizen
- ✓ Social Security Number*
- ✓ California Resident*
- √ High School GPA
- ✓ Attend Eligible California College
- ✓ Enrolled at Least Half-Time
- ✓ Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress
- ✓ No Bachelor's Degree Earned
- ✓ Not in Default on Student Loan
- ✓ Registering for Selective Service
- ✓ Not Incarcerated



FULLY QUALIFIED
Progress

GPA Verification Form

- Submitted electronically for ALL Paraclete Seniors now.
- Senior signature gives PHS counseling dept. permission to submit gpa to CA for Cal Grant consideration
- Will be matched with FAFSA information

Cal Grant GPA Verification Form DEADLINE: MARCH 2, 2017 (POSTMARKED)							
For 2017-18 Academic Year DO NOT SEND ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS : To CALIFORNIA							
	TO BE FILLED OUT BY STUDENT (SEE BACK OF FORM FOR INSTRUCTIONS) STUDENT AID Please print clearly using blue or black ink only.						
1.	Your Social Security number or Dream Act ID number: 2. Month/year of high school graduation (If currently a HS senior, anticipated date)						
	Re-enter your Social Security or Dream Act ID number:						
3.	Your name — last, first, middle initial, as it is listed on your Social Security card and FAFSA:						
4.	Your date of birth: 5. Telephone number: () -						
6.	Your permanent mailing address:						
	CSAC USE ONLY						
7.	Your e-mail address, if available:						
8.	Fill in bubble if you are submitting a SAT, ACT, GED, TASC or HiSET test score instead of a GPA. Attach your applicable test score to this form, transcripts will not be accepted. You do not have to have your school fill out the FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY section						
9.	STUDENT CERTIFICATION: I have read the instructions and information accompanying this form. I understand that this Cal Grant GPA Verification Form is used to determine Cal Grant eligibility and the GPA must be calculated as described on the attached GPA Calculation Instruction sheet. The information I have completed is true to the best of my knowledge, and I understand that it is illegal to report false or misleading information. I understand that without a valid Social Security number and signature, this form will not be considered. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.						
	Student Signature Date						



Cal Grant Program

	Cal Grant A	Cal Grant B	Cal Grant C	
GPA	3.00	2.00	N/A	
Financial Need	Cost of Attendance - Expected Family contribution = Unmet Need			
Income & Asset Ceiling	Income: Maximum amount depends on family size Assets: The maximum amount a family can have in assets that are not exempt			
Program Enrollment	· Associates · Bachelors	· Associates · Bachelors · Certificate	Vocational Courses only Associates Certificate	

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

FOR NEW CAL GRANT APPLICANTS and RENEWING CAL GRANT RECIPIENTS

2017-18 CAL GRANT PROGRAM INCOME CEILINGS						
	Cal Grant	Cal Grant				
	A and C	В				
Dependent students and						
Independent students with depe	Independent students with dependents other than a spouse					
Family size:						
Six or more	\$110,300	\$60,600				
Five	\$102,200	\$56,100				
Four	\$95,400	\$50,100				
Three	\$87,800	\$45,100				
Two	\$85,700	\$40,000				
Independent students						
Single, no dependents	\$35,000	\$35,000				
Married, no other dependents	\$40,000	\$40,000				

2017-18 CAL GRANT PROGRAM ASSET CEILINGS				
Dependent students ¹	\$73,800			
Independent students	\$35,100			

¹ This ceiling also applies to independent students with dependents other than a spouse.

NOTE: Per California Education Code section 69432.7(k), the Cal Grant program income and asset ceilings for new applicants and renewing recipients are to be adjusted annually using the change in the cost of living within the meaning of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) of Section 8 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution:

SEC. 8. (e) (1) "Change in the cost of living" for the State, a school district, or a community college district means the percentage change in California per capita personal income from the preceding year.

Assets

What is NOT factored in:

- Primary home
- Retirement accounts

See FAFSA notes for details



	2016-17 Award Amounts					
Award	Award Year	сс	CSU	UC	Independent	For Profit
	1	CC Reserve	\$5,472	\$12,294	\$9,084	\$4,000^
^	2	CC Reserve	\$5,472	\$12,294	\$9,084	\$4,000^
Α	3	Appeal	\$5,472	\$12,294	\$9,084	\$4,000^
	4	-	\$5,472	\$12,294	\$9,084	\$4,000^
	1	\$1,670	\$1,670	\$1,670	\$1,670	\$1,670
	2	\$1,670	\$1,670 + \$5,472	\$1,670 +\$12,294	\$1,670 + \$9,084	\$1,670 + \$4,000^
В	3	\$1,670	\$1,670 + \$5,472	\$1,670 +\$12,294	\$1,670 + \$9,084	\$1,670 + \$4,000^
	4	\$1,670	\$1,670 + \$5,472	\$1,670 +\$12,294	\$1,670 + \$9,084	\$1,670 + \$4,000^
С	1-2	\$547	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	\$547 to \$2,462	\$547 to \$2,462

^Award Amount is \$9,084 if WASC accredited before July 1, 2012



Middle Class Scholarship Nho is Eligible?

Only students who have less than 40% of their UC or CSU fees covered by grants and scholarships

- ✓ Income \$156,000 or Less
- √ Asset \$156,000 or Less
- ✓ U.S. Citizen, eligible Non-Citizen or AB 540
- ✓ Exempt from paying non-resident tuition
- ✓ Meets Selective Service
- ✓ Not in default on student loan
- ✓ Not Incarcerated
- ✓ Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress

FAFSA vs Dream Act

• Dream Act is a California program



Who is a Dream Act student?

The term Dreamers typically describes...

Younger undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children with no legal status



Making education beyond high school financially accessible to all Californians.

AB 540 Requirements

✓ Attended a CA high school for at least three years or attained the equivalent of at least three years of credits*, AND

✓ Graduated or will graduate from a CA high school or passed the Certificate of General Education Development (GED), AND

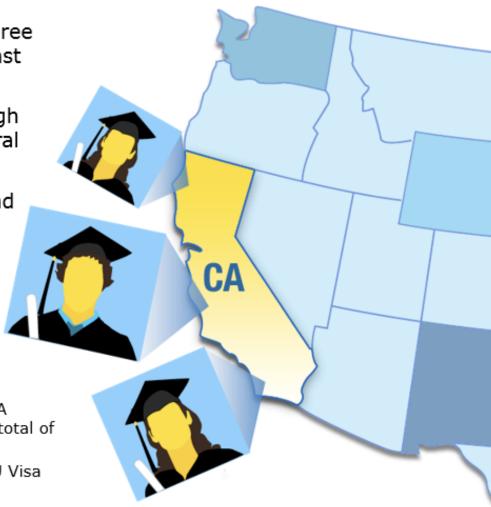
 Will register or enroll in an accredited and qualifying CA college or university, AND

✓ If applicable, complete(d) an affidavit to legalize immigration status as soon as you are eligible, AND

✓ Do not hold a valid non-immigrant visa (F, J, H, L, A, B, C, D, E, etc.)**

*Under this provision, you must also have attended CA schools (elementary and secondary) for a cumulative total of three or more years.

**If you have Temporary Protective Status or hold a U Visa may still be eligible for the Dream Act Application.



2017-18 FAFSA Changes

- FAFSA will not reveal the other colleges that you are listing on the FAFSA. A college will only see their own name.
- 2016-17 FAFSA Income info will not carry over
- FSA will not use a PIN. You will have a username + password= FSA ID (at least one parent, different from student ID)
- You may not use the same email for FSA IDs*

FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

Start here for:

- Initial FAFSA
- Corrections
- Signatures / FSA ID
- Continuing a saved FAFSA
- Renewal FAFSA

www.fafsa.gov



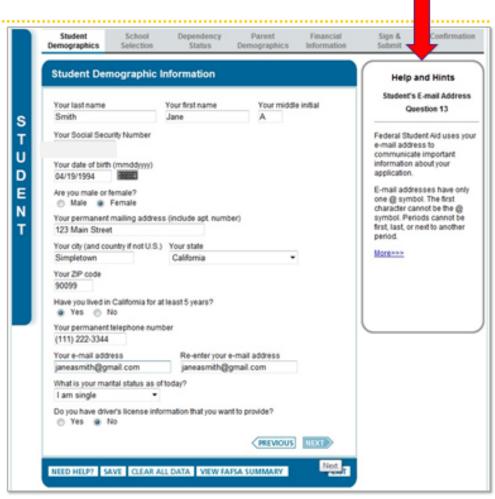
Student Demographics

Check for:

- Name matches student Social Security card
 - Watch out Naturalized Citizens
- Transposed numbers
- Incorrect data in numeric fields

Tip: Use the Help and Hints section on each page

Simple mistakes can delay processing FAFSA and determining eligibility for financial aid



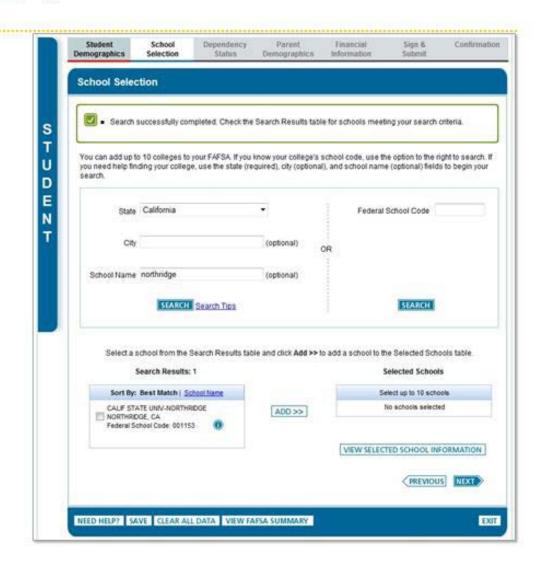
School (college) Selection

Add a school

- Federal School Code
- Search by:
 - State
 - City
 - Name of college

Housing plans

- On campus
- With parent
- Off campus



Colleges selection tips

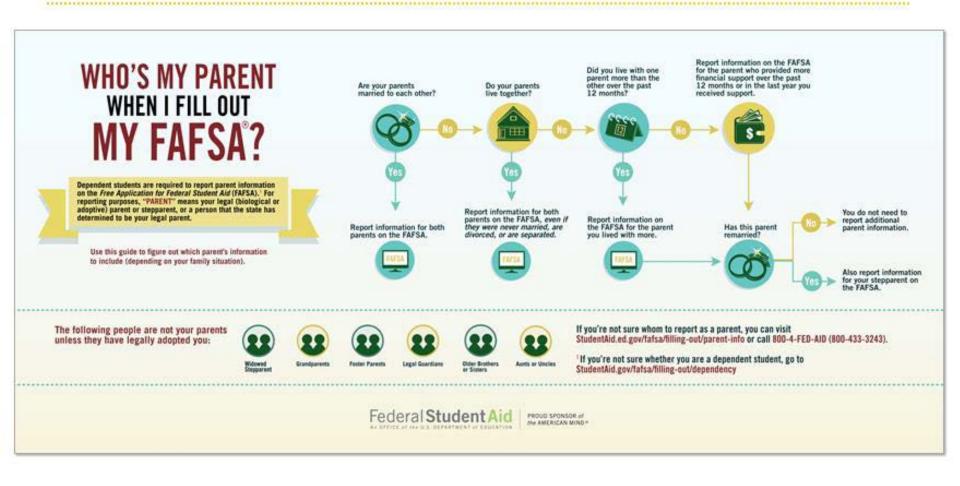
Students can enter up to ten colleges on FAFSA. Students who are applying to a larger number of schools will have the opportunity to correct their FAFSA information after initial submission and processing of their FAFSA.

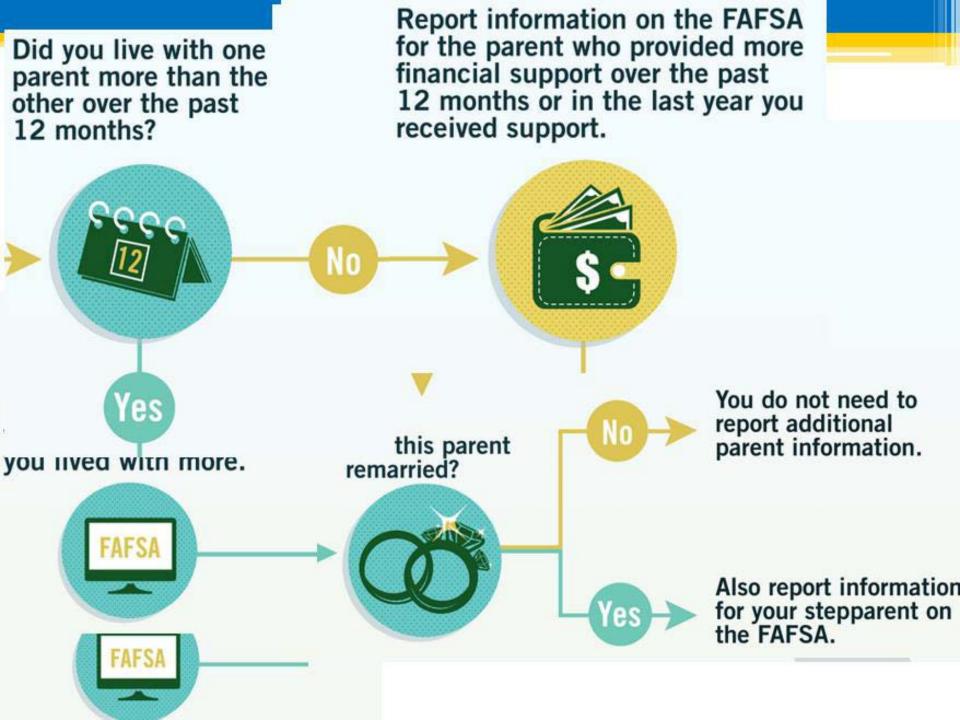
- Second: There is no need to put schools in any particular order. But, we suggest students list
 all of their California institutions in the order of choice (first choice on top). CSAC will send
 initial Cal Grant eligibility for the top three California institutions the student lists. Students
 will be able to change this later, if necessary.
- Third: For students who are absolutely certain they are leaving California to attend an institution outside the state we highly recommend they include at least one "back-up" school in California. Why? Although they could add a California school AFTER March 2nd and still be considered for Cal Grant consideration, by having at least one California College listed BEFORE March 2nd will allow the student to see if they might have Cal Grant eligibility at a school in California. If a student does not list any California schools on their initial FAFSA filing but later decide to attend a school in California, they will need to be "reprocessed" by CSAC for Cal Grant consideration. This is a manual process, whereby the student will need to contact CSAC by phone or through WebGrants 4 Students.
- Fourth: When schools have <u>Early Decision</u> deadlines, students should make sure they include them on their initial FAFSA submission.
- Also, list housing as On Campus

Students applying to more than 10

- follow the four rules on previous slide.
- Once the FAFSA is processed, they can go back to FOTW, log in, go to the School Selection section, remove schools, and then add new schools.
- Student and parent, will need to use FSA IDs to resubmit your information, but all the new schools will now receive the FAFSA info.
- Once a school receives it, even if a student takes the school off of their list, the school can process the student for financial aid.

Whose info goes on a FAFSA?





























Who Is My "Parent" When I Fill Out the FAFSA SM?

Which parent's information should I report on the FAFSASM?

Maybe you know you're considered a dependent student* by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSASM), and you're supposed to put information about your parents on the application. But what if your parents are divorced? Remarried? What if you live with your sister? Whose information should you report?

Below are some guidelines that might help. Unless otherwise noted, "parent" means your legal (biological and/or adoptive) parent or your stepparent. In addition, the rules below apply to your legal parents regardless of their gender.

- · If your parents are living and legally married to each other, answer the questions about both of them.
- If your parents are living together and are not married, answer the questions about both of them.
- If your parent is widowed or was never married, answer the questions about that parent.
- · If your parents are divorced or separated and don't live together, answer the questions about the parent with whom you lived more during the past 12 months. If you lived the same amount of time with each parent, 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 your parents are divorced but live together, you'll indicate their marital status as "Unmarried and both parents living together," and you'll answer the

What if my parents are worried about providing their private information on the FAFSA?

Their information is safe with us. We recommend you fill out your FAFSA online, where your information is put into special code before it's sent over the Internet to our processor. Also, we won't share your FAFSA information with anyone except the schools you tell us you want to attend (so they can use the information to award financial aid to you) and a few federal and state government agencies (so they can check to be sure you've reported your information accurately or can assess your information to see what financial aid they could offer you).

What if I don't live with my parents?

You still must answer the questions about them if you're considered a dependent student.

What if my parents aren't going to help me pay for college and refuse to provide information for mv FAFSA?

You can't be considered independent of your parents just because they refuse to help you with this process. If you do not provide their information on the FAFSA, the application will be considered "rejected," and you might not be able to receive any federal student aid. The most you would be able to get (depending on what the financial aid administrator at your college decides) would be a loan called an unsubsidized loan.

The EAECA will tell our out at the deliference in this

Divorced or Separated Parents

- Provide information for the parent(s) with whom the student lived with most during the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA
- If the student spent equal time with both parents, use the information for the parent who provided the greatest amount of financial support for the student in the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA
- If both parents are still living together, use information for both parents on FAFSA

Remarried Parent

Provide information about the custodial parent and stepparent regardless of:

- Agreement of "nonsupport"
- Prenuptial agreement
- Divorce decree designating tax filing exemptions

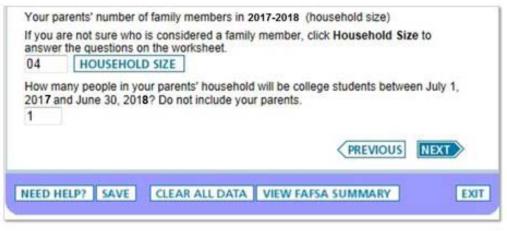
Note: A parent claiming the student on his or her tax return need not be the parent required to provide data on the FAFSA

Note: Children of parent and stepparent should be included in the household size and number in college questions on the FAFSA (if they provided and will continue to provide more than half of their support for the coming academic year)

Parent Information

- Household Size:

 Parent provides more than 50% financial support
- Number in College: Students enrolled at least half-time



Parent Income Information

IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)

- Transfers information directly from the IRS
 - Requires FSA ID
 - Available as of October 1st
 - Available after filing 2015 federal tax return
 - 3⁺ weeks after electronic filing
 - 11⁺ weeks after paper filing



Strategy

- Financial questions are "as of today"
 Complete the FAFSA when your accounts are at the lowest, if possible.
- Student assets are factored at a higher (20%) rate than those of parents (5.6%)

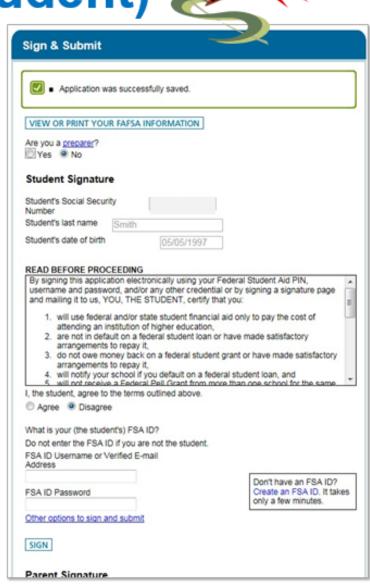
Sign and Submit (Student)

Select signature method

FSA ID or printed signature page

Terms of Agreement

- \$\$\$ to be used for education-related expenses only
- Student is not in default on a federal student loan
- Student does not owe a refund of a federal Title IV grant
- Can receive Federal Pell Grant from only one college for the same period of time
- Agree to provide tax information and other requested documents



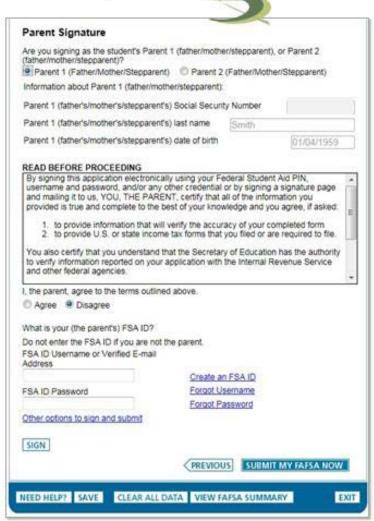
Sign and Submit (Parent)

Select signature method

FSA ID or printed signature page

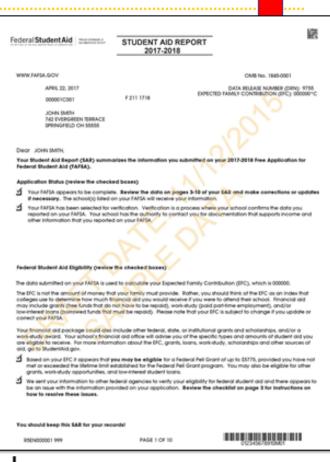
Terms of Agreement

- Provide documents to verify accuracy of information (if requested)
- IRS verification



Student Aid Report (SAR) and Acknowledgement

- Sent electronically or by mail
- Summarizes FAFSA information
- Displays EFC and DRN
 (upper right-hand area on the SAR)
 - EFC Expected Family Contribution
 Used to determine eligibility for
 federal aid
 - DRN Data Release Number
 Used to send SAR to additional schools



questions

- alanda@paracletehs.org
- bpierson@paracletehs.org