### Financial Aid 101

2018 - 2019



## Agenda

- GAfutures.org
- Basic Information
- Federal Programs
- State Programs
- Filling out the FAFSA
- Additional Resources

# **GAfutures.org**



## GAfutures.org



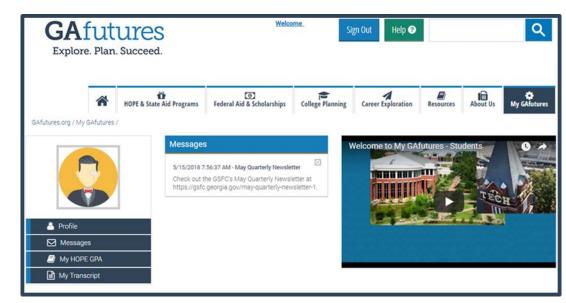
- Georgia's primary resource to help students plan, apply and find affordable ways to pay for college
- **GAfutures** supports GSFC's mission to increase access to education beyond high school for Georgia students

# **GAfutures.org**

- Financial Aid & Scholarships
  - The basics, state and federal programs, calculators, repayment options, financial literacy tips, national scholarship search
- College Planning Tools
  - Grade-specific checklists, College Money Matters, calculators, applications (admissions, financial aid), HOPE-eligible institutions highlighted, national college search
- Career Exploration
  - Career assessments, interest profiler, Career Clusters and Pathways, skilled trades

### My GAfutures for Students

- Here's what you can do with a My GAfutures account
  - Check your HOPE GPA
  - Apply for Dual Enrollment
  - View and request high school transcripts
  - Apply to participating colleges
  - Apply for state financial aid
  - Receive general updates and reminders from GSFC



## My HOPE GPA

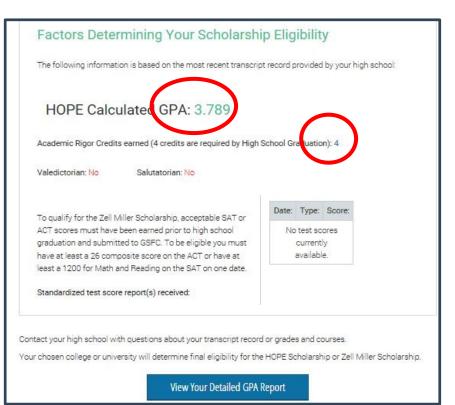
- Your HOPE GPA begins calculating as soon as you set foot into high school
- Your HOPE GPA determines if you are eligible for HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship
  - HOPE GPA only includes grades earned in core subjects: English, math, science, social studies, foreign language
- You can begin checking your HOPE GPA beginning in 10th grade\*
- My HOPE GPA page includes: student information,
   HOPE GPA, rigor credits, ACT/SAT scores (if applicable)

<sup>\*</sup>High schools must provide transcript data to GSFC in order for a student's HOPE GPA to be available through their GAfutures account.



## My HOPE GPA

The HOPE GPA Calculation is used for HOPE Scholarship and Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility upon graduating high school. Student Information Report Type: Preliminary Name: SSN: XXX-XX-Student ID: As of the most recent transcript data received at Based on your preliminary GPA calculation. you may be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship GSFC: or Zell Miller Scholarship. A final GPA will be calculated when the high school submits your final transcript. If you have a minimum 3.7 calculated GPA and required ACT or SAT scores at the time of high school graduation, you may be academically eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship. Date High School Submitted Transcript Record:



### **Basic Information**



### What is Financial Aid?

- Financial aid is money to pay for your postsecondary education
- Examples of financial aid
  - Grants
  - Scholarships
  - Loans
  - Work-Study Programs



### Sources of Financial Aid

Professional and Service Organizations

Employers and Private Companies Federal Government



Private Foundations State Government

Colleges and Universities



## Types of Financial Aid

- Merit-Based Scholarship (HOPE Scholarship)
- Need-Based Grant (Pell Grant)
- Non-Need Based Grants (HOPE Grant)
- Student or Parent Loans
- Employment Opportunities, Work Study
- Military Aid and Grants
- Savings Plans (Path2College)

### Who Can Get Federal Student Aid?

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- High school graduate or GED recipient
- Eligible degree/certificate program
- Valid Social Security number
- Males registered for Selective Service
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress

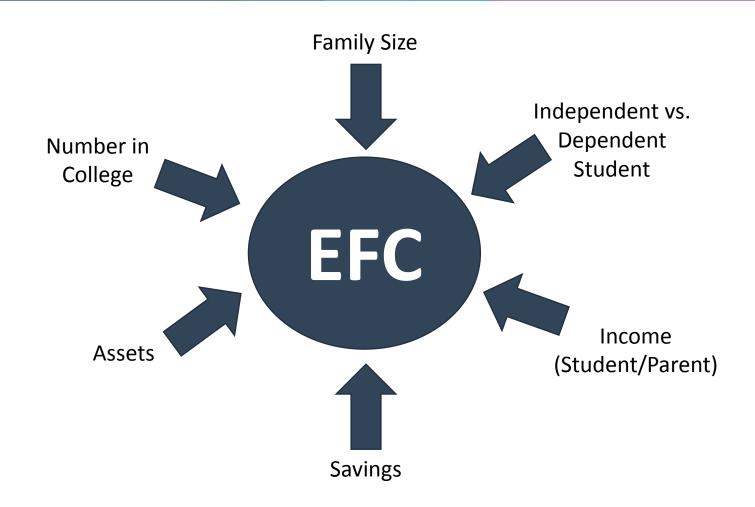


### How is Financial Need Calculated?

- Financial need is determined by Cost of Attendance (COA) and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- COA is tuition, fees, room and board, transportation, etc. established by the school
- EFC comes from what you report on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



### **Factors that Influence EFC**



### Factors that **Do Not** Influence EFC

- Assets that are EXCLUDED from the FEDERAL family contribution calculation (EFC)
  - Family home
  - Family farm (under special circumstances)
  - Value of retirement accounts (IRA, KEOUGH, 401K)



# Federal Programs



## What are the Federal Programs?

- Pell Grant
  - Maximum award amount for 2018-2019: \$6,095
  - Based on financial need, COA, full-time or part-time status and plans to attend school for full academic year or less
  - Maximum EFC to qualify for Pell \$5,486 or less
  - May not receive Pell Grant funds for more than one school at a time
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
  - Full-time, undergraduates only
  - Awards range from \$100 \$4,000
- Federal Work-Study Grant

## What are the Federal Programs?

- Direct Subsidized Loan
  - Interest is paid by the government while enrolled (at least half-time)
- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
  - Student is responsible for paying the interest on loan
- Federal PLUS Loan for parents of undergraduate students
- Grad PLUS Loan for graduate and professional students

### **2018 – 2019 Interest Rates**

#### **Direct and PLUS Loans**

Type of Loan	Interest Rates
Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans (Undergraduates)	5.05%
Direct Unsubsidized Loans (Graduate or Professional Students)	6.6%
Direct PLUS Loans (Parents and Graduate or Professional Students)	7.6%

## Federal Loan Program Limits

#### 2018-2019 Academic Year

Initial Loan Amount for Dependent Students whose Parents are Eligible for a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

Independent Students and Dependent Students whose Parents were Denied a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500

# **State Programs**



### What are Some State Programs?

- Academic or Merit Scholarships
  - HOPE Scholarship
  - Zell Miller Scholarship
- Grants
  - HOPE Grant
  - Zell Miller Grant
  - HOPE Career Grant
  - HOPE GED Grant
- Loan
  - Student Access Loan (SAL)



### Other State Programs

- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan
- HERO Scholarship
- Public Safety Memorial Grant
- REACH Scholarship
- Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE)
- Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities (MSEE)
- Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)
- University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers



### How do I Apply for Aid?

- Federal Aid
  - FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov
- State Aid
  - Most states make awards based on FAFSA data
  - GSFAPPS is a Georgia-specific financial aid application available at GAfutures.org
- School Aid
  - Contact school's financial aid office
- Scholarships
  - Each scholarship provider has its own requirements

### **GSFAPPS**



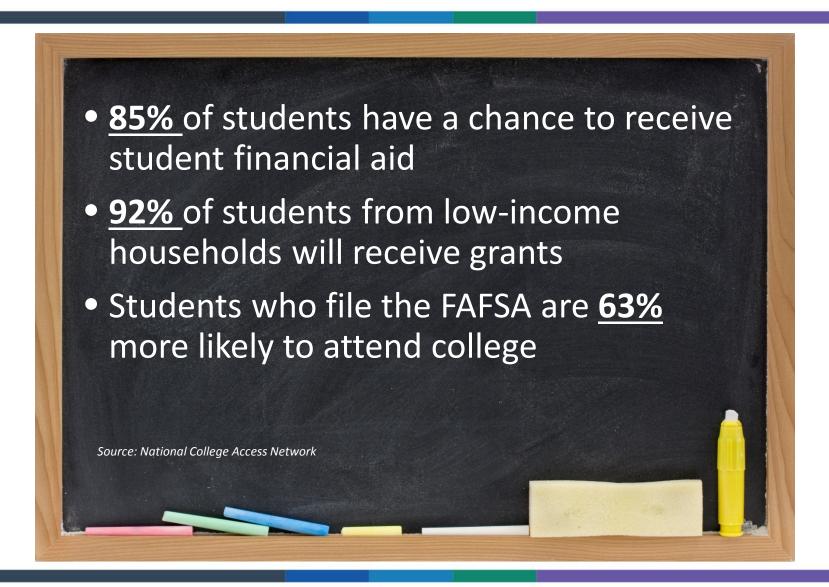


# Filling out the FAFSA

FREE Application for Federal Student Aid



## Why Complete the FAFSA?



## Why Complete the FAFSA?

- Qualifies students for low-interest and forgivable federal student loans
- 30 minutes is usually all you need to complete
- \$24 billion in federal aid left on the table each year
- It's FREE!

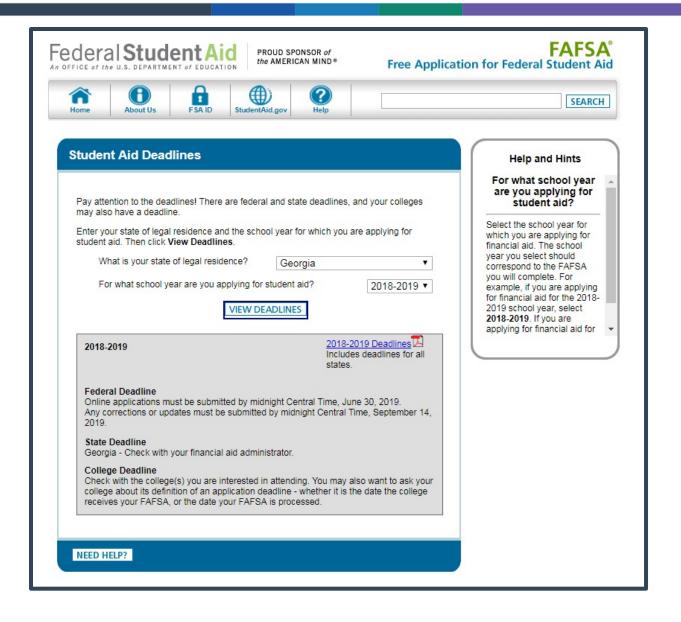


Source: National College Access Network

### When to File the FAFSA

When a Student Plans to Attend College	You will Submit this FAFSA	You can Submit the FAFSA From	Using Income and Tax Information From
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	2018-19	October 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019	2016
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020	2019-20	October 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020	2017

### Student Aid Deadlines



## What You Need to Complete the FAFSA

• Social Security number (Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen)

Most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money carned

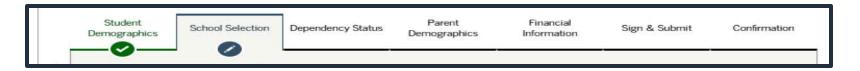
records of money earned

- Bank statements and investment records (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically
- Order Spanish FAFSA at edpubs.gov



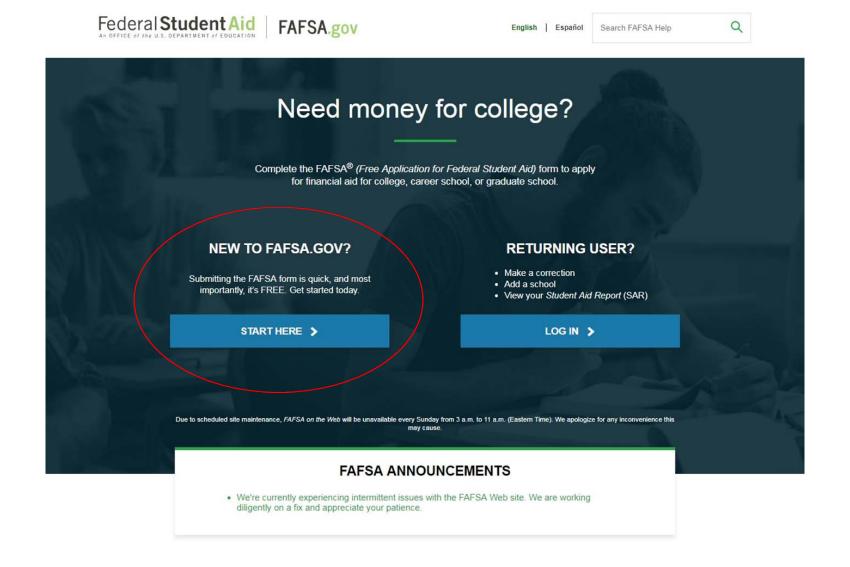
### New from Federal Student Aid

- Responsive Web Applications (RWA) means better viewing experience across devices
- New FAFSA.gov homepage
- Online FAFSA more user-friendly with clearly defined sections along the top of the page
- As each section is completed, a check mark is visible

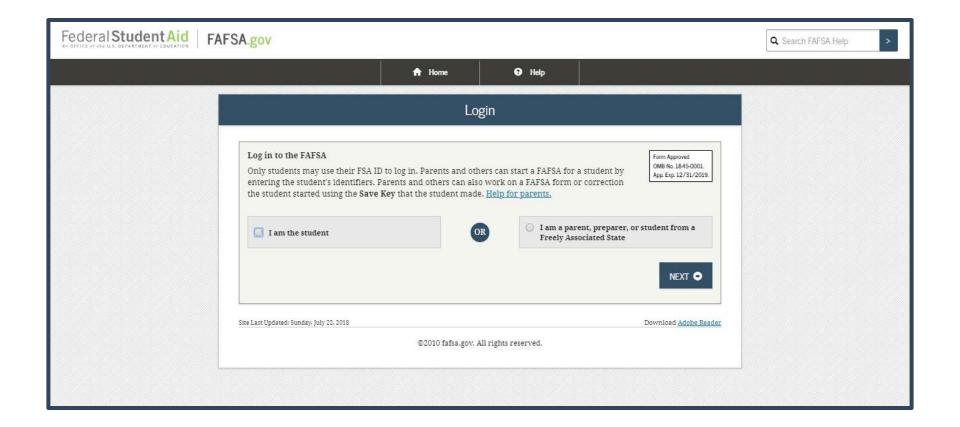


myFAFSA app coming this fall

## FAFSA Homepage: FAFSA.gov



# **Getting Started**

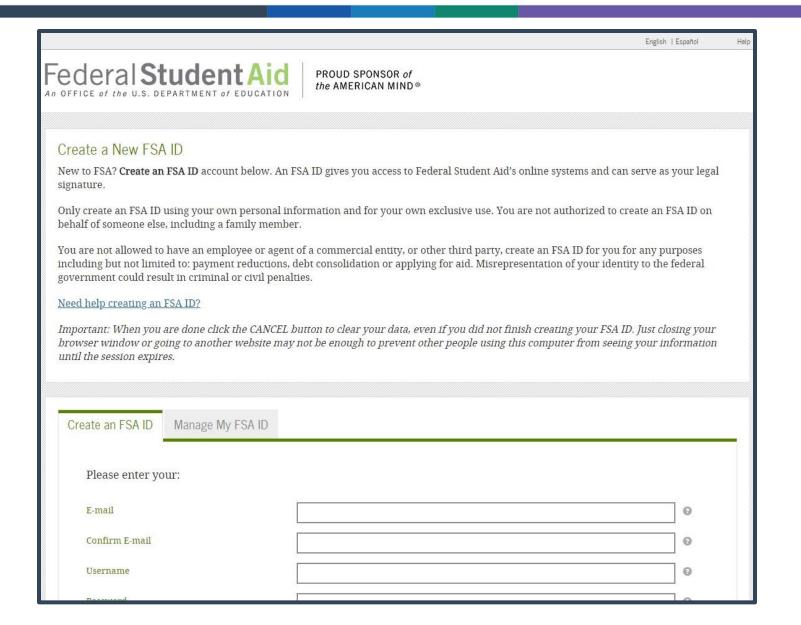


### The FSA ID

- Consists of user-created username and password
- Provides electronic access to personal information
- FSA ID can be used immediately upon creation to complete, sign and submit your FAFSA
- Parents and students must apply for their own FSA ID

Note: The user will only receive immediate full benefit of the FSA ID if the student is linking an already established PIN. If not, the student can only use the FSA ID to sign their FAFSA until their FSA ID has been validated by the Social Security Administration.

#### **Create Your FSA ID**



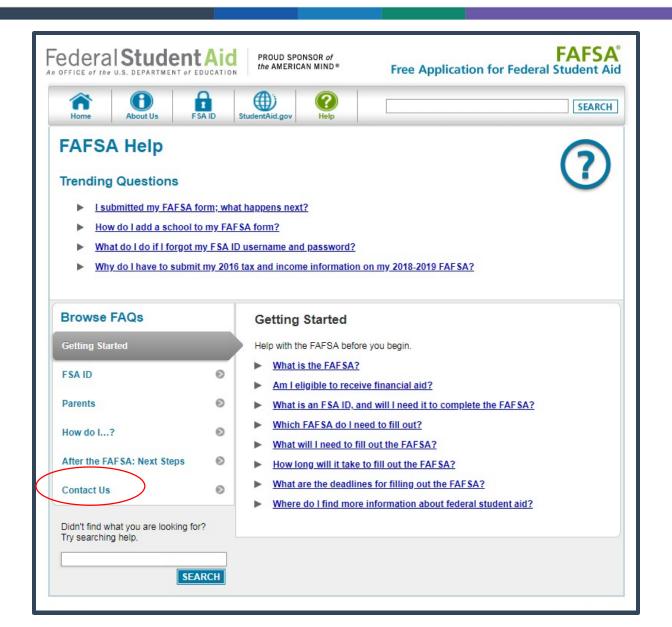
#### **FSA ID Tips**

- Create your own FSA ID
- Never tell anyone else your FSA ID
- Use your FSA ID each year you fill out FAFSA and for lifetime of any loans
- Parents may need FSA ID as well
- Each email address can be associated with only one FSA

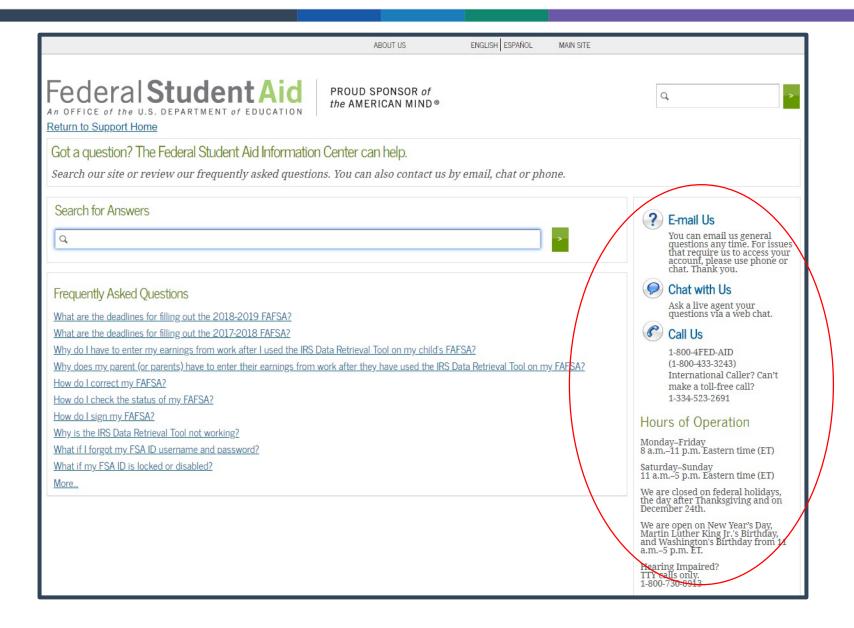
ID



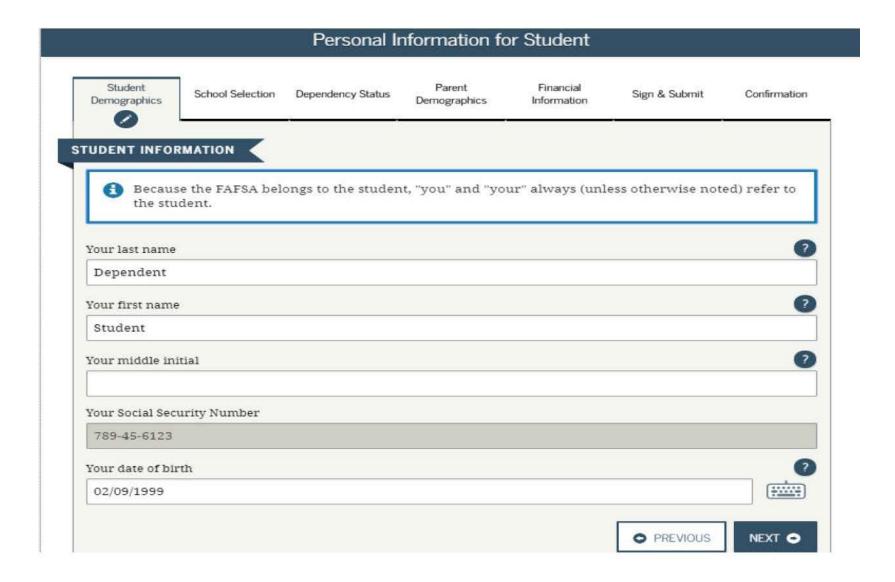
# Find the Answers on FAFSA.gov



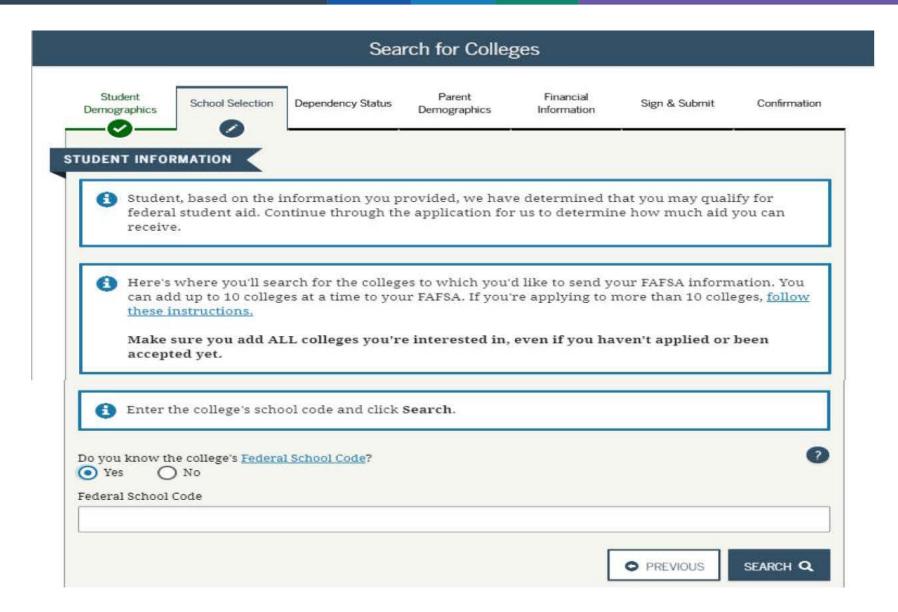
#### **FSA Information Center**



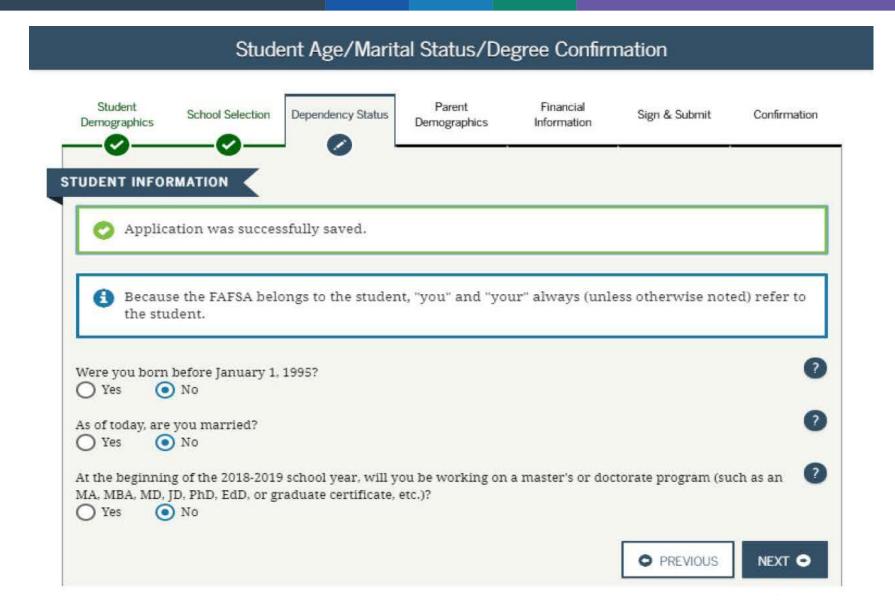
## **Student Demographics**



#### **School Selection**



## **Dependency Status**

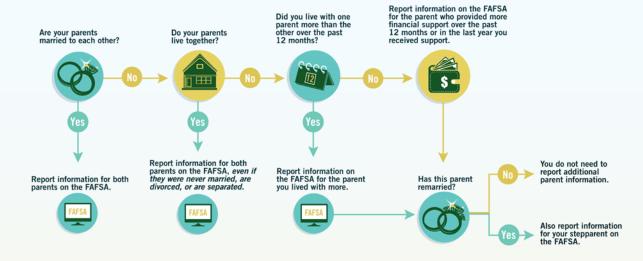


## Who's My Parent?



Dependent students are required to report parent information on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA). For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).



The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:













3)

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit StudentAid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out/parent-info or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

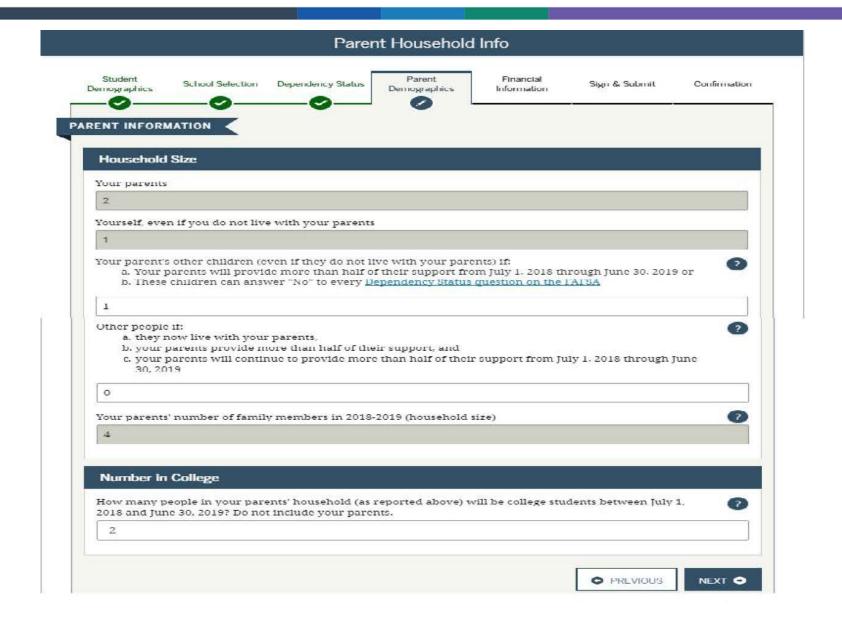
If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to StudentAid.gov/fafsa/filling-out/dependency

Federal Student Aid

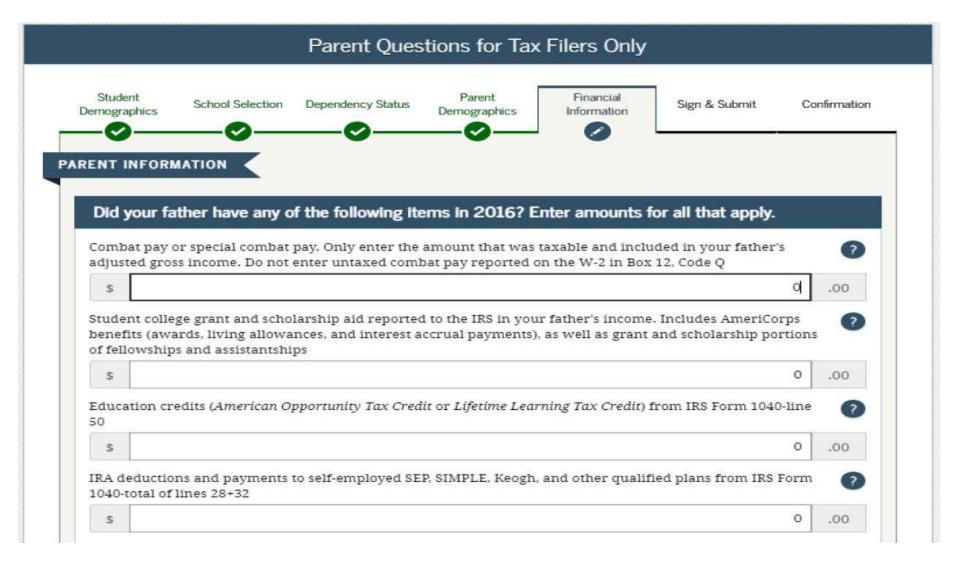
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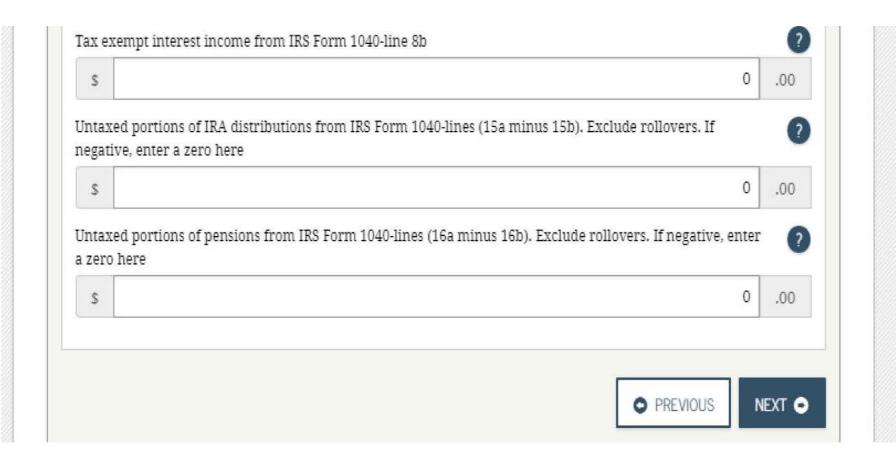
## **Parent Demographics**

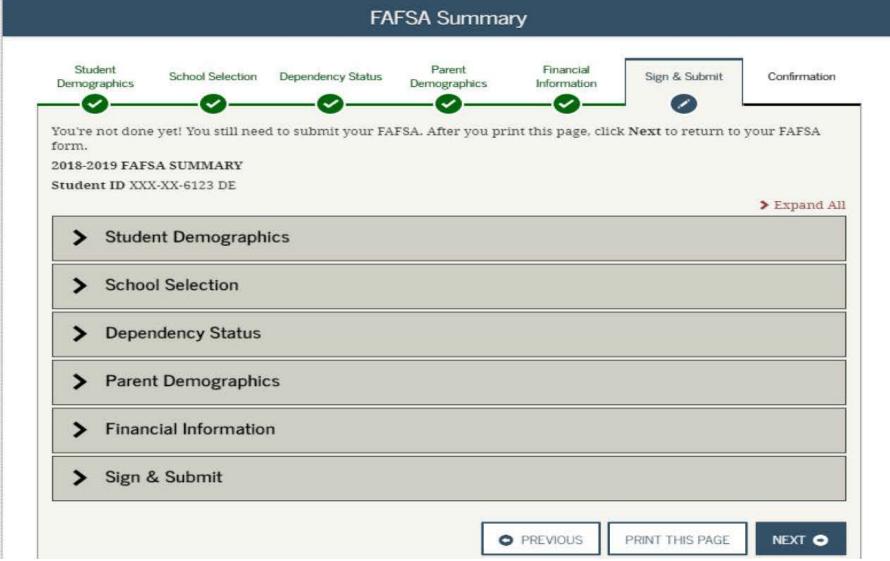


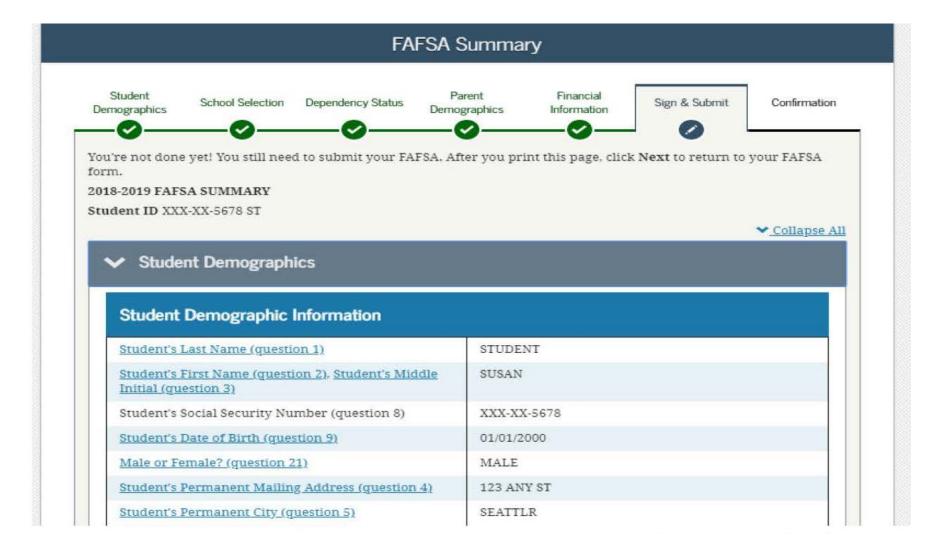
#### **Financial Information**

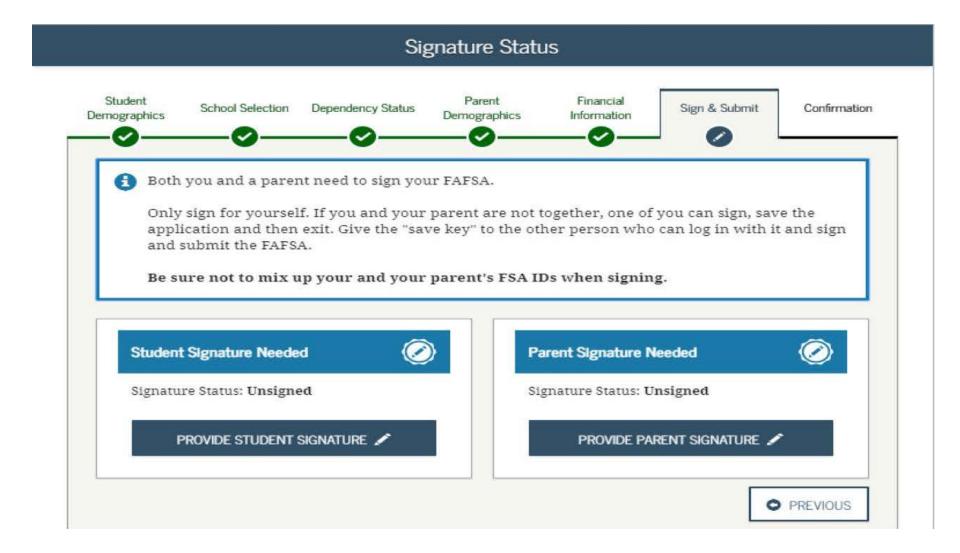


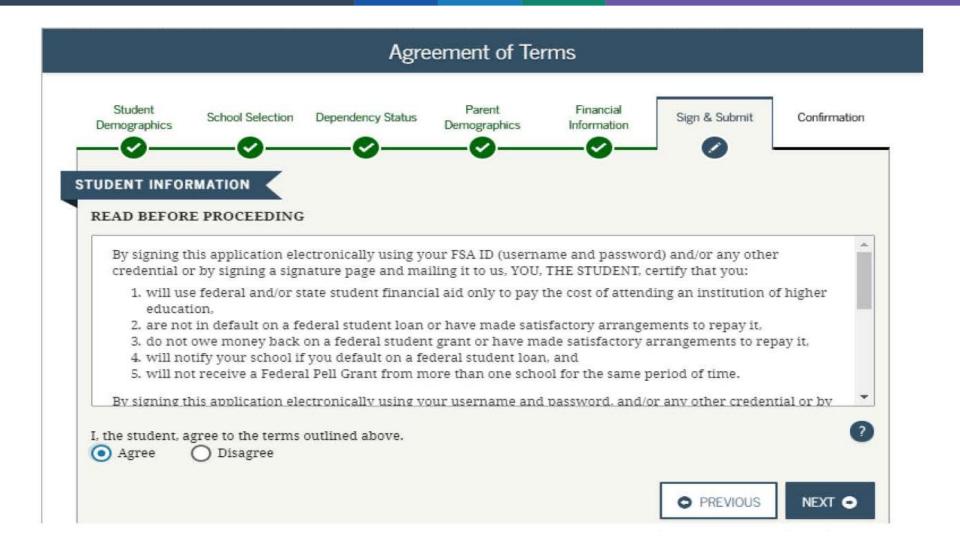
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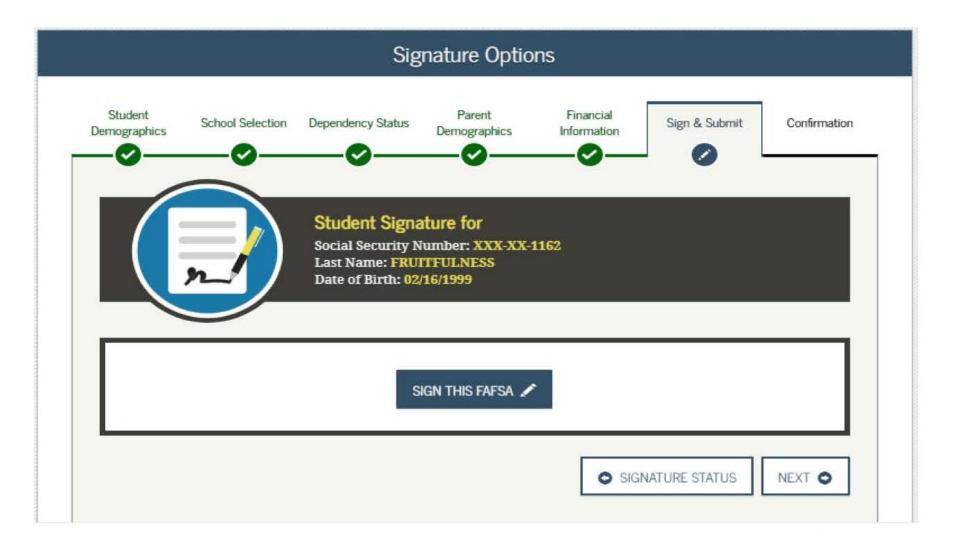


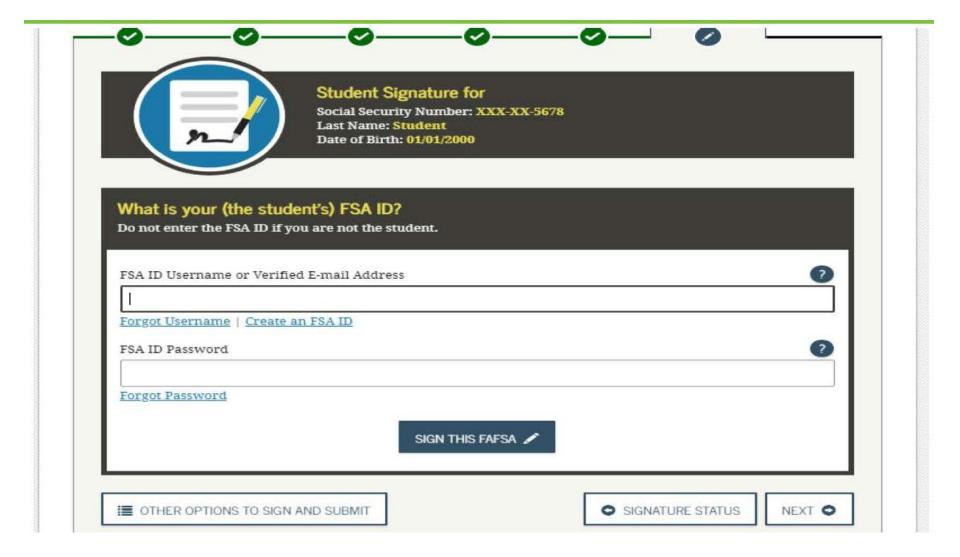


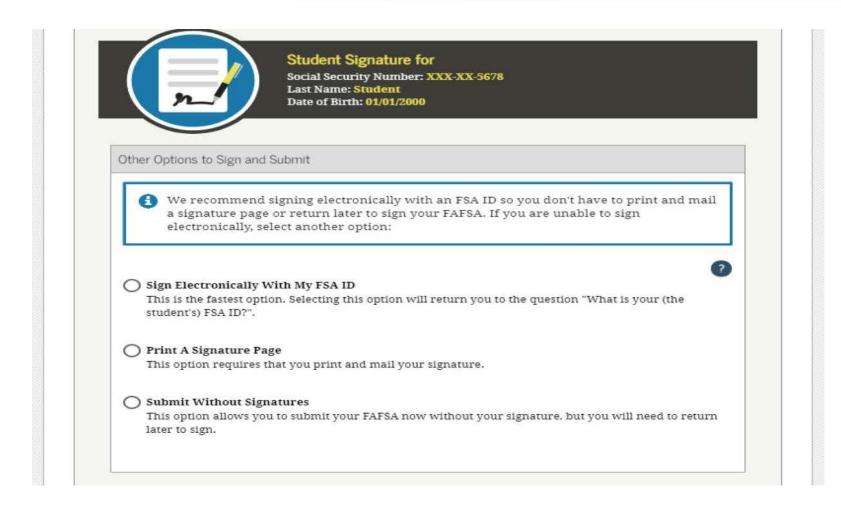


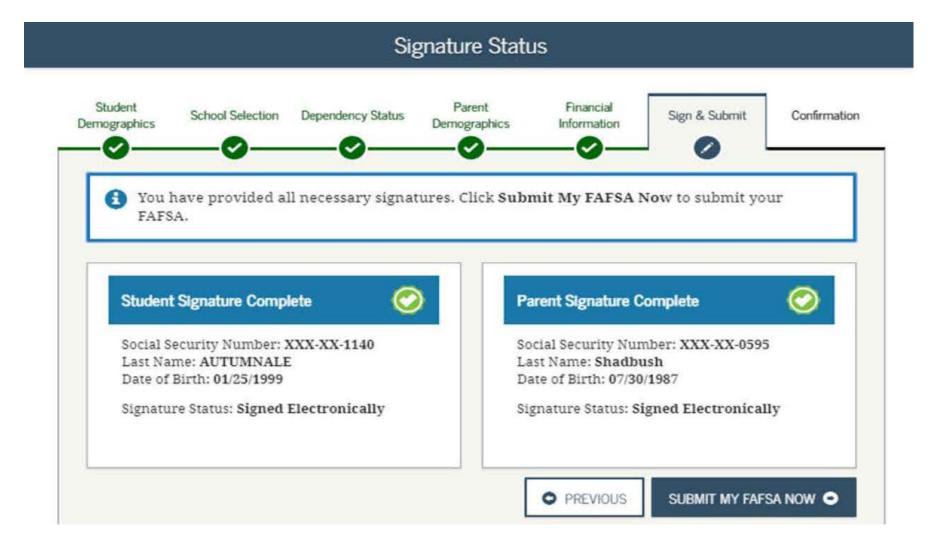






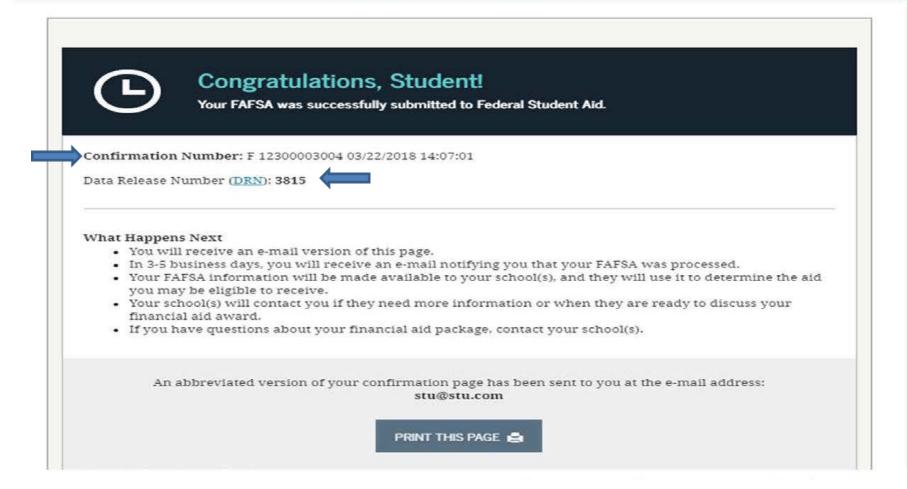






## **Confirmation Page**

#### 2018-2019 Confirmation Page



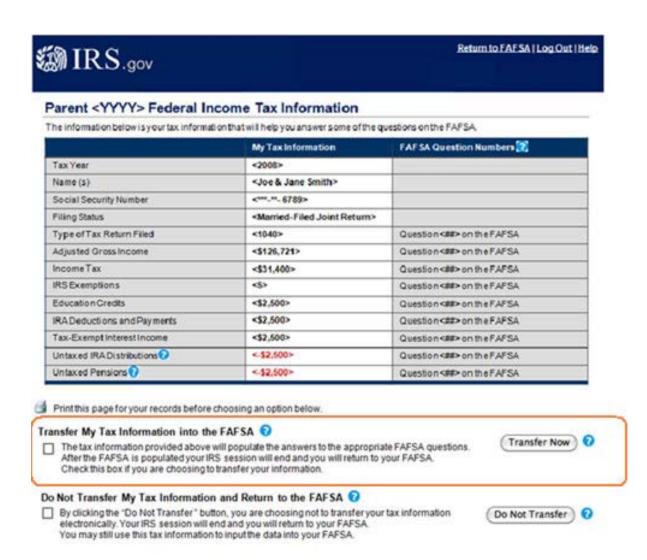
## **Confirmation Page**

- EFC estimate
- Pell Grant and Direct Loan estimates
- Lists schools chosen
- Option for parents to transfer information to application for sibling



#### IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- Applicant will be validated
- Applicant will have option to "Transfer" tax information to FAFSA



#### **Special Circumstances**

- Cannot report on FAFSA
- Send explanation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review special circumstances:
  - Request additional documentation
  - Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S.
     Department of Education

#### **Examples of Special Circumstances:**

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information

## **FAFSA Processing Results**

- Student will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Colleges listed on your FAFSA will receive Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) 10 to 14 days after FAFSA submitted
- College reviews ISIR
  - May request additional documentation

#### Federal Student Aid FAFSA



Form Approved OMB No. App. Exp. 12/31/2018

2018 - 2019

Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Application Receipt Date: Processed Date:

00/00/2017 00/00/2017 XXX-XX-0000 RO 01 EFC: 00000 \*

DRN: 0000

#### Comments About Your Information

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 00000. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid. Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work study, and possible funding from your state and school.

#### Financial Aid Award Offer

Housing: On Campus Residency: In-State	Estimated Cost of Attendance (COA) 2 Semesters Expected Family Contribution (EFC)					\$19,035 - \$0
	Estimated Financial Need					\$19,035
Type of Aid		Fall	Spring	Summer	Total	Accept?
Federal Pell Grant		\$3,047.50	\$3,047.50	\$0	\$6,095	Yes or No
HOPE Scholarship*		\$3,720	\$3,720	\$0	\$7,440	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan-Sub		\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0	\$3,500	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan- Unsub		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No
Total for Academic Year					\$19,035	

<sup>\*</sup>Estimated HOPE Scholarship award amount for 15 credit hours per semester at Georgia Institute of Technology for the 2018- 2019 academic year. Award amounts vary by institution. Complete award amounts can be found on **GAfutures.org**.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has a great online comparison tool to help you determine which offer best fits your financial needs. Check it out at **consumerfinance.gov**.

#### **Additional Resources**



#### **Additional Resources**

- GAfutures.org
- Georgia's College Connector
- GSFC.org
- FAFSA.gov
- StudentAid.gov
  - Prepare for College
  - Types of Aid
  - Who Gets Aid
  - Apply for Aid
  - Repay Your Loans

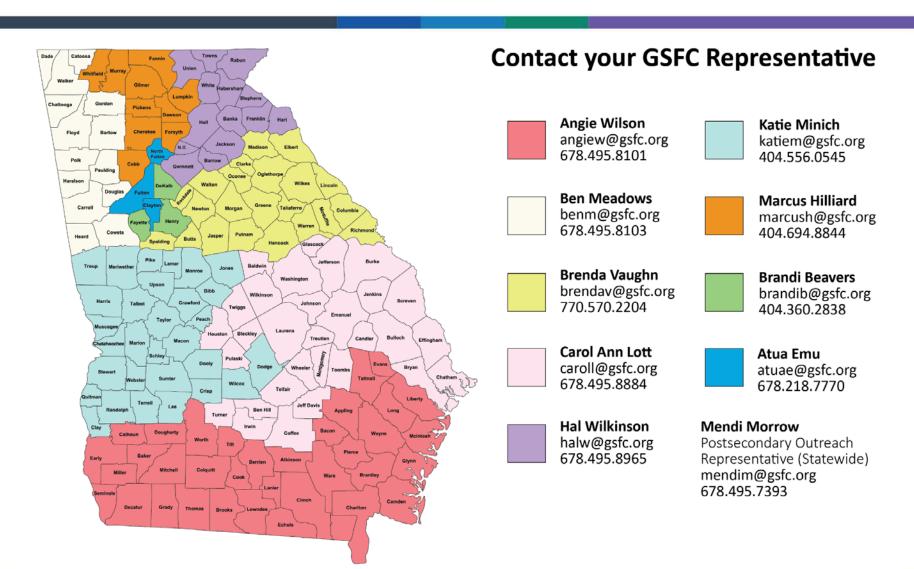


#### Your Next Steps

- Create account at GAfutures.org
- Check your HOPE GPA to see if you are on track to be eligible for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship
- Seniors: Complete the FAFSA beginning October 1



#### We're Here to Help You



#### **Contact Us**





#### **Be Social**







#### **Our Mission**

To promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians.