

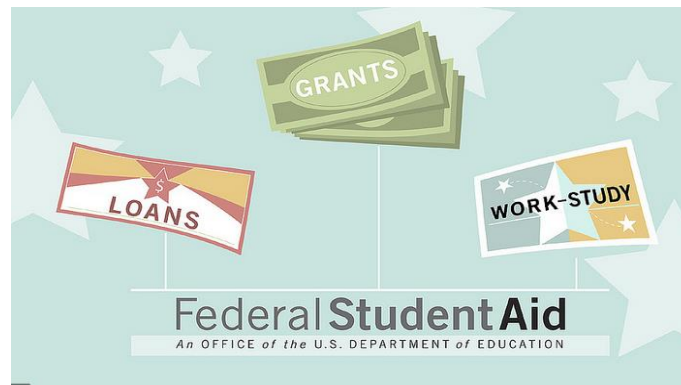
Eagle Talk Tuesdays

FAFSA – I filed but something is wrong

Michelle Standridge

Common FAFSA Mistakes

1. Not filing at all
2. Using the wrong website
3. Not Using DRT
4. Marking Legal Guardianship or Ward of the Court
5. Reporting scholarships and grants that were not taxable
6. Confusing parent info and student info
7. Inputting the same amount for taxes paid and agi
8. Not including parent information
9. Not registering with selective service (if born male)
10. Student and or parent not signing FAFSA



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID FAFSA.GOV

The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov website. At the top, the browser address bar displays 'studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa'. Below the address bar, a navigation bar includes the text 'An official website of the United States government.' on the left, and 'Help Center' and 'English | Español' on the right. The main navigation menu features the 'Federal Student Aid' logo with the tagline 'An official website of the U.S. Department of Education', followed by links for 'UNDERSTAND AID', 'APPLY FOR AID', 'COMPLETE AID PROCESS', and 'MANAGE LOANS', each with a dropdown arrow. A search icon is located on the far right of the navigation bar. The main content area has a dark teal background with white text. On the left, it says 'Complete the FAFSA® Form' with a green underline, followed by the text 'Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.' On the right, there are two sections: 'New to the FAFSA® Process?' with the text 'Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.' and a 'Start Here' button; and 'Returning User?' with the text 'Correct info | Add a school' and 'View your Student Aid Report (SAR)', followed by a 'Log In' button.

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa

An official website of the United States government.

Help Center English | Español

Federal Student Aid
An official website of the U.S. Department of Education

UNDERSTAND AID ▾ APPLY FOR AID ▾ COMPLETE AID PROCESS ▾ MANAGE LOANS ▾

Search

Complete the FAFSA® Form

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.

New to the FAFSA® Process?

Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

Start Here

Returning User?

Correct info | Add a school

View your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)

Log In

FAFSA® Announcements

Never pay for FAFSA

Didn't use the DRT tool?

S**T****U****D****E****N****T**

Student Financial Information

 Application was successfully saved.

For 2019, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return? Already completed ▾

What income tax return did you file for 2019?
IRS 1040 ▾

For 2019, what is your tax filing status according to your tax return? Single ▾

 Applying is faster and easier if you transfer your tax return information into this FAFSA with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT)!

[LINK TO IRS](#)

Help and Hints

Student's 2019 Tax Return Filing Status

Question 34

If you filed or will file a tax return, you must select your tax return filing status for 2019:

- Single
- Head of Household
- Married-Filed Joint Return
- Married-Filed Separate Return
- Qualifying Widow(er)
- Don't know

If you (and if married, your spouse) filed a 1040 tax return select the tax return filing status from the "Filing Status" field of your tax return.

Using the Link to the IRS button imports the tax information for you reducing the chance of error.

If you did not link on first filing, you can go back and use the tool to link and submit FAFSA again.

DEPENDENCY STATUS

Student Demographics	School Selection	Dependency Status	Parent Demographics	Financial Information
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Dependency Determination

☒ Application was successfully saved.

Were you born before January 1, 1998?

On the day you submitted your FAFSA, were you married?

At the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate, etc.)?

Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022?

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, 2022?

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

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?

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?

Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?

On or after July 1, 2020, were you homeless or were you self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

Read these questions carefully. Many will need court or other documentation to support a “yes” answer.

If you don’t have court paperwork but feel like you have a special circumstance call the financial aid office.

Additional Financial Information

Enter the amount of your parents' income tax for 2019.

Transferred from the IRS

2019 Additional Financial Information

Education credits (*American Opportunity Tax Credit* or *Lifetime Learning Tax Credit*) from IRS

Transferred from the IRS

Child support your parents paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Do not include support for children in your parents' household.

\$.00

Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships

\$.00

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

\$.00

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 reported on the W-2 in Box 12, Code Q.

\$.00

Earnings from work under a Cooperative Education Program offered by a college

\$.00

Read this closely. Many student put all grants and scholarships in this section but it is only the amount that would have been considered taxable and you included that amount on your federal tax return

PARENT vs STUDENT

 Help

Student Demographics

School Selection

Dependency Status

PARENT

Parent Financial Information

 Application was successfully saved.

For 2019, have your parents completed their IRS income return or another tax return?

What type of income tax return did your parents file for 2019?

For 2019, what is your parents' tax filing status according to their tax return?

You have already transferred your tax information from the IRS. [View option to link to the IRS](#)

What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2019?

How much did your Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2019?

How much did your Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2019?

If your parents filed or will file an IRS 1040, did they or will they file a Schedule 1? Select **No** if your parents did not or will not file a Schedule 1 or **only filed** a Schedule 1 to report: unemployment compensation, educator expenses, IRA deduction, student loan interest deduction, Alaska Permanent Fund dividend, or virtual currency. Click [here](#) for more information.

Was either of your parents a dislocated worker on the date of your FAFSA?

 Help

Student Demographics

School Selection

STUDENT

Applying is faster and easier with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Based on your previously provided tax information, The [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#) allows you to transfer your tax information directly from the IRS to FAFSA.

For your protection, your tax return information will not be shared with the IRS without your permission.

If you use the IRS DRT, you may not need to provide your tax information manually.

AGI versus Taxes Paid

****Use the helpful tips on the righthand side to know where on a tax form to pull the numbers**

Help and Hints

Student's 2019 Adjusted Gross Income
Question 36

The answer to this question may be pre-filled with ["Transferred from the IRS."](#)

If the answer to this question is not pre-filled, enter the amount of your (and if married, your spouse's) adjusted gross income (AGI) in 2019.

If you filed a tax return (or if married, you and your spouse filed a joint tax return), the AGI can be found on IRS Form 1040-line 8b.

Note: The line numbers above are from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax form **not** from the W-2 form

Help and Hints

Student's 2019 U.S. Income Tax Paid
Question 37

The answer to this question may be pre-filled with ["Transferred from the IRS."](#)

If the answer to this question is not pre-filled, enter your total tax amount for 2019.

If the total is a negative amount, enter a zero (0).

Income tax paid is the total amount of IRS Form 1040-line 14 minus Schedule 2-line 2.

Note: The line numbers above are from the Internal Revenue Service tax form, **not** from the W-2 form.

Round to the nearest dollar

Parent Info

If the FAFSA is asking for parent info you need to include it. Just leaving it off the FAFSA will create errors. If there are special circumstances, you need to talk to the financial aid office to find out your next steps.

If you are a graduate student and that FAFSA asks if you would like to include parent info, you can say no.

SELECTIVE SERVICE

Your gender is used to determine if you need to register with the Selective Service System. Most male citizens and male immigrants must register with the Selective Service System to receive federal student aid. This requirement applies to any person assigned the gender of male at birth.

Selective Service registration is required by law as the first part of a fair and equitable system that, if authorized by the President and Congress, would rapidly provide personnel to the Department of Defense while at the same time providing for an Alternative Service Program for conscientious objectors. By registering, a young man remains eligible for jobs, Federal student aid, State-based student aid in 31 states, Federally-funded job training, and U.S. citizenship for immigrant men

Sign and Submit

- Make sure that you SIGN and SUBMIT the FAFSA. If you are dependent and had to include parent information the parent must SIGN and SUBMIT as well. If this is done you will get a confirmation screen as well as a confirmation email.

2021-2022 Confirmation Page



Congratulations, Michelle!

Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid.

Confirmation Number: *

Data Release Number ([DRN](#)): *

Questions?

