

FAFSA Simplification: What You Need To Know

The [FAFSA Simplification Act](#) is a redesign of the system used to award federal student aid. It includes changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, the way aid is calculated and the rules schools must follow to participate in federal student aid programs.

NOTEABLE UPDATES

New terminology

- + “Contributor” refers to anyone (student, spouse, biological or adoptive parent, or stepparent) who must provide their information and signature on the FAFSA form.
- + Contributors are not financially responsible for the student’s education costs.

Account registration

- + All contributors need a [StudentAid.gov](#) account. The username and password become their [Federal Student Aid ID \(FSA ID\)](#), which they will use to access and sign the FAFSA.
- + Contributors other than the student no longer need a Social Security number to create this account.

Required consent and approval

- + All contributors — including the student — must also provide consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred directly from the Internal Revenue Service into the FAFSA form.

Eligibility

- + More students will be eligible for Federal Pell Grants. Eligibility is now linked to family size, household income and the federal poverty level.
- + The [Student Aid Index \(SAI\)](#) calculation is now used to help determine eligibility for need-based funding. This replaces the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

RESOURCES

Having difficulty creating a FSA ID or completing the FAFSA form?

- + [Resources](#)
- + [Workarounds](#)
- + [How to create](#)
- + [FAQs](#)
- + [SLU Webinars](#)
- + [Contact SLU](#)



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