Session # 48

Simplification: Behind the Scenes

Shamarli Kollock
US Department of Education

Michele Brown
US Department of Education



Today's Discussion

 Our goal is to explain the simplification changes that have been made throughout the application

- -Application Scenarios
- Questions and Answers



Applicant Type

- FOTW is customized to provide options based on various factors.
- Examples include -
 - -New Student
 - -Renewal Student
 - -Dependent Student
 - -Independent Student



Application Logic

- Also customized to provide each applicant an experience based on their own personal circumstances.
- Skip Logic is used in the application and reduces the number of data elements an applicant has to complete.



Skip Logic Topics We'll Cover

- State of Legal Residence
- Driver's License Information
- Selective Service
- Drug Conviction
- High School Information



Skip Logic Topics We'll Cover

- Dependency Questions
- Homeless students 21 or younger
- Homeless students 22 or 23
- Students who have a Special Circumstance
- Students who do not have a special circumstance but are unable to provide parental information



Skip Logic Topics We'll Cover

- Providing Financial Information
 - Full Needs Analysis Scenario
 - Automatic Zero Scenario
 - Simplified Needs Test Scenario
 - Non Tax Filers



Although inspired in part by real students, the following scenarios are fictional and do not depict any actual person or event.

APPLICANT SCENARIOS



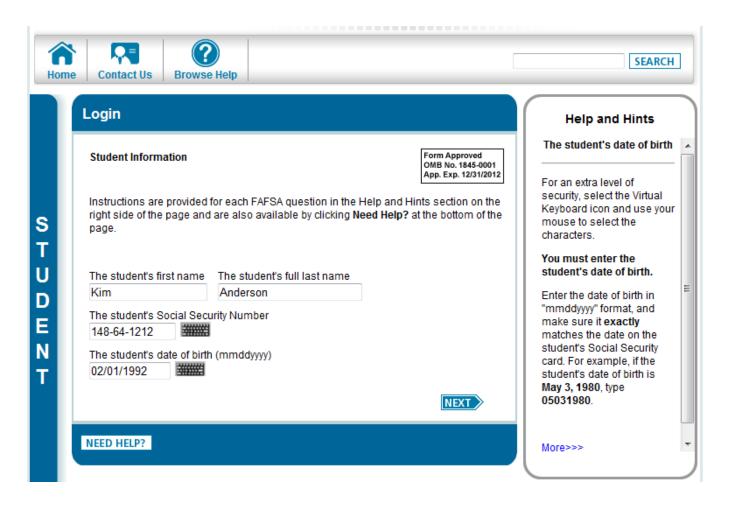
Kim



- Kim
- 18 years old
- Graduates from high school in May
- New Applicant



New Applicant - Student Login

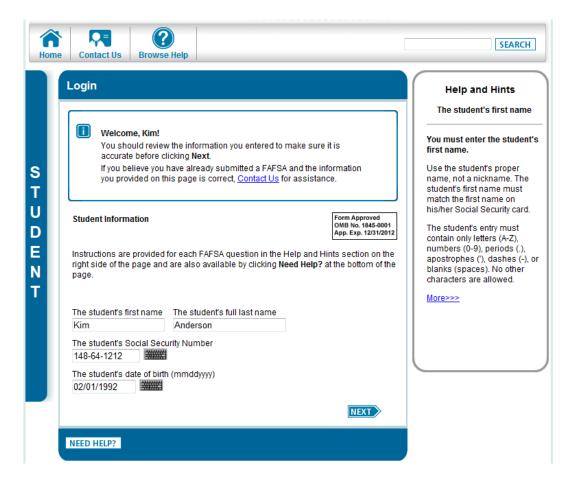




New Applicant – Accuracy Review

✓ FOTW determines if Kim is in our system using the identifiers provided.

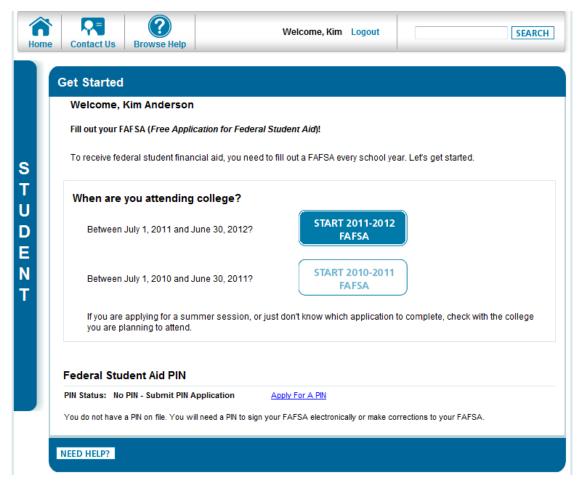
✓ Since Kim is not in our system, we provide an opportunity for her to review her identifying information before proceeding.





New Applicant "My FAFSA" Page

Kim can choose which FAFSA she wants to complete based on when she plans to attend college.



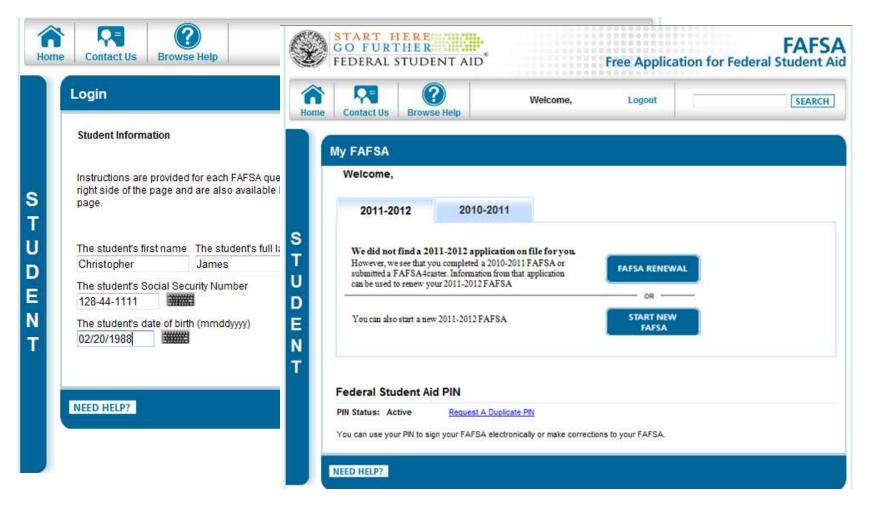


Christopher

- Christopher
- 22 years old
- Second year of college



Renewal "My FAFSA" page





Renewal Eligible Fields

- Last Name
- First Name
- Middle Initial
- Permanent Street Address
- City
- State
- Zip Code
- SSN
- Date of Birth
- Telephone Number
- Driver's License Number
- Driver's License State
- Student's E-Mail Address
- Citizenship

- Alien Registration Number
- Student's Marital Status
- Student's Marital Status Date
- Student's State of Legal Residence
- Student Resident Before 1/1/06
- Student's Legal Residence Date
- Are You Male or Female
- Father's Highest Education
- Mother's Highest Education
- High School Diploma
- Bachelor's Degree
- Degree/Certificate



Renewal Eligible Fields (cont.)

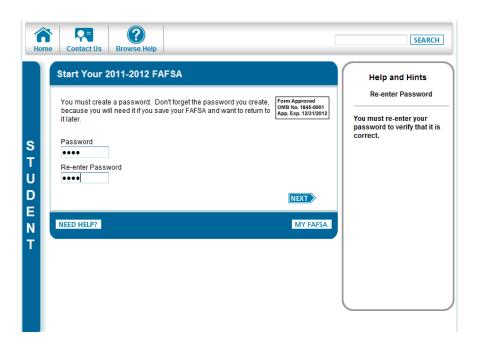
- Graduate or Professional Student •
- Active Duty Military
- Veteran
- Do You Have Children
- Other Legal Dependents
- Orphan or Ward
- Emancipated Minor
- In Legal Guardianship
- Parents' Marital Status
- Parents' Marital Status Date
- Father's SSN
- Father's Last Name
- Father's First Initial
- Father's Date of Birth

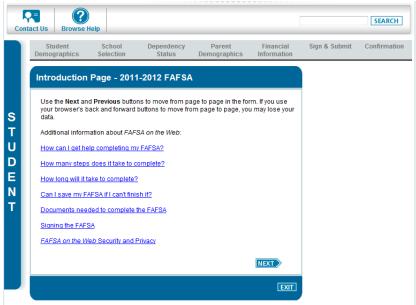
- Mother's SSN
- Mother's Last Name
- Mother's First Initial
- Mother's Date of Birth
- Parent's E-Mail Address
- Parents' State of Legal Residence
- Parents' Resident Before 1/1/06
- Parents' Legal Residence Date
- Dependency Override



Providing a Password FAFSA Introduction

- Allows Kim & Christopher to save and return to FAFSA as needed.
- Introduction page provides basic context about the FAFSA.
- Christopher would also be required to enter a PIN.





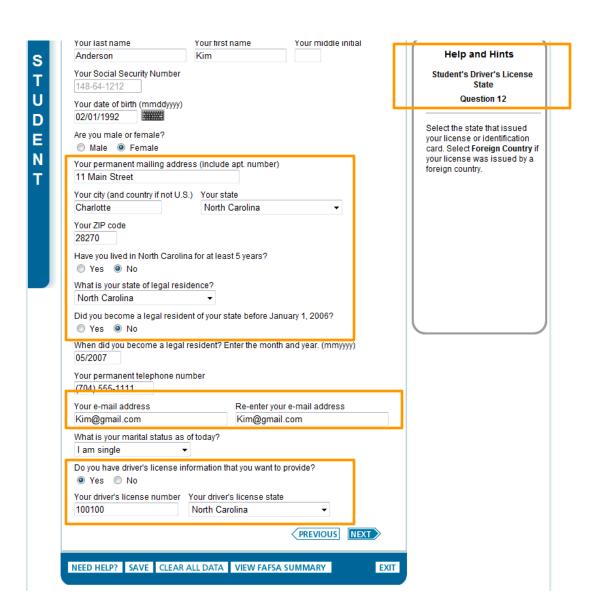


STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



Skip Logic -

- ✓ State of Legal Residence
- ✓ Driver's License Information

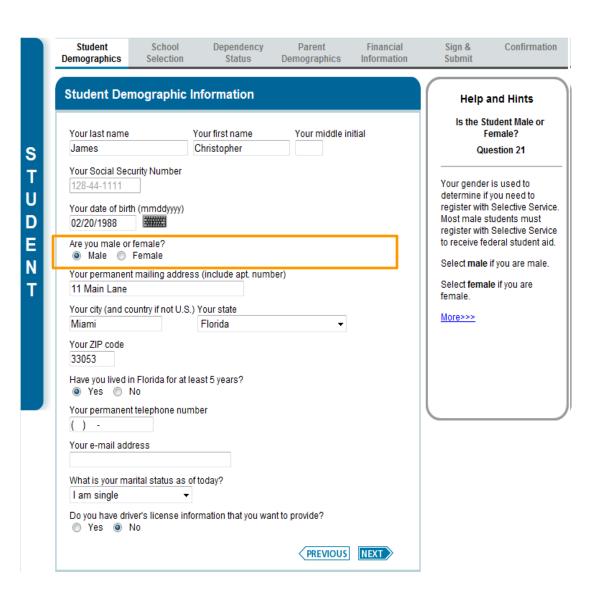




Selective Service

Gender and Age are used to determine who needs answer the Selective Service questions.

Chris would answer "male".

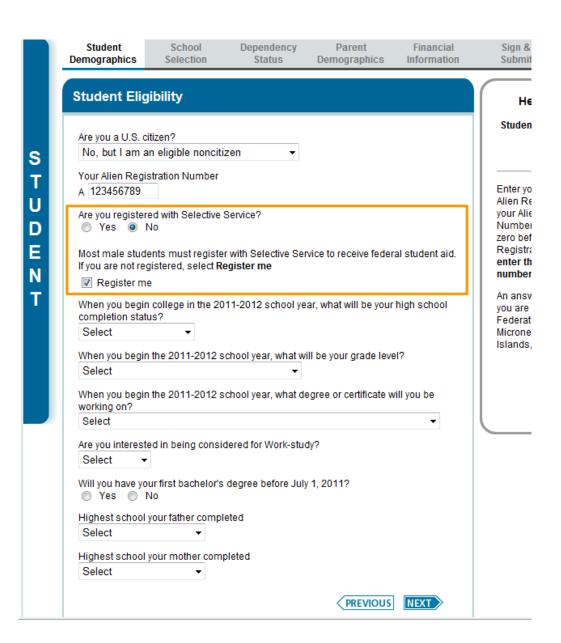




Selective Service

Chris would then be presented with Selective Service questions on the next page

- Males
- Age 18 to 25

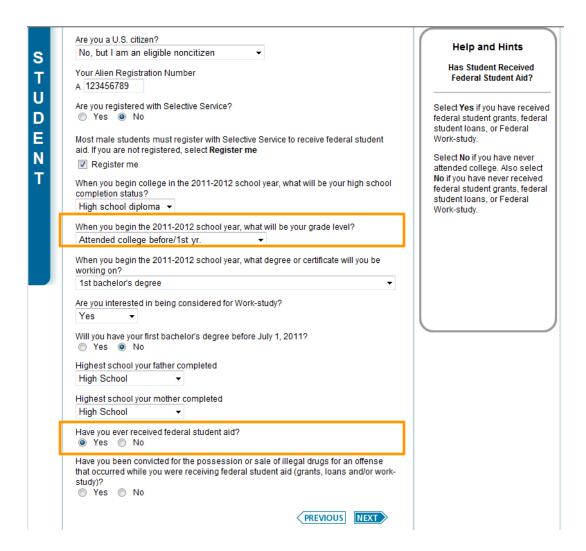




Drug Conviction Eligibility

Grade level is used to determine drug conviction eligibility along with the "Have you ever received federal aid?" question.

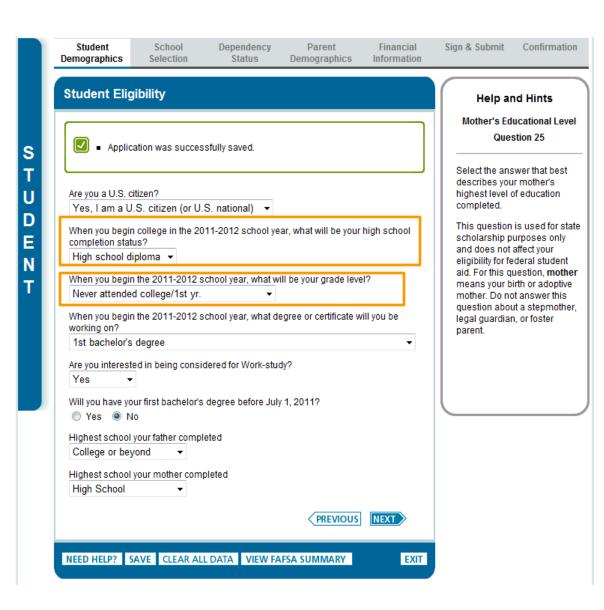
Drug conviction question would not display if Kim entered "Never attended college / 1st yr." or answered "No" to have you ever received federal aid.





Skip Logic -

High School
Completion Status
and Grade Level are
used to determine
presentation of High
School question.

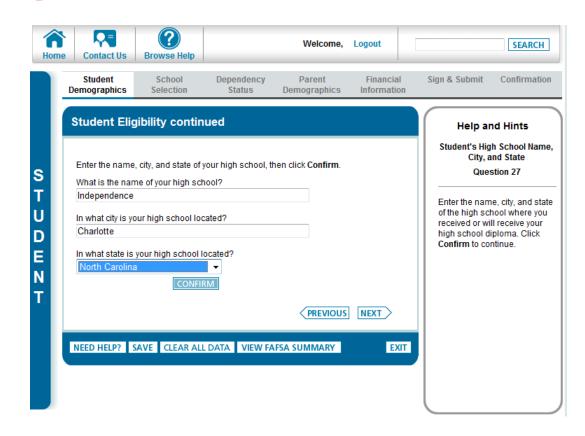




High School Question

Kim enters -

- ✓ Name of the high school
- ✓ City and state where high school is located
- √Clicks "Confirm"

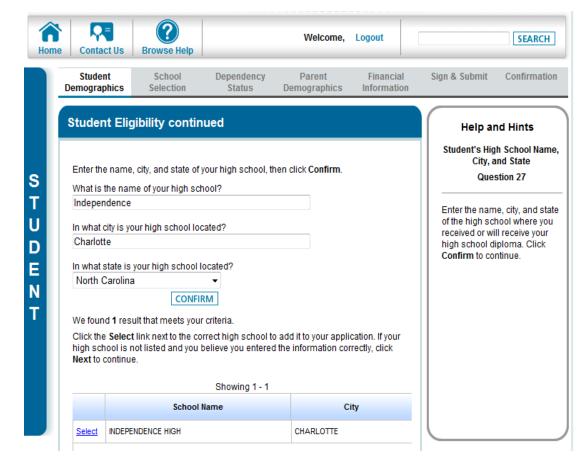




High School Question Database

US Department of Education: National Center for Education Statistics

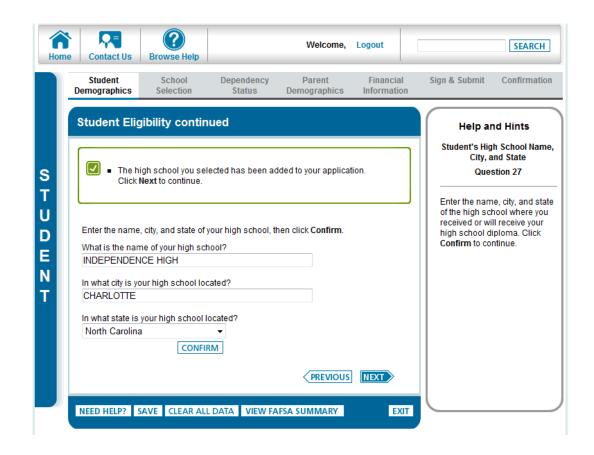
- ✓ NCES Private School Universe Survey (PSS)
- Private Schools
- ✓ NCES Common Core of Data (CCD)
- Public Schools





High School Question

Kim selects her high school and it is saved to her application



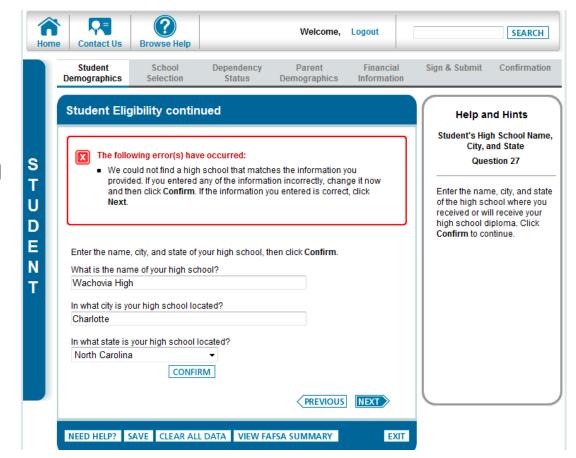


What if the high school isn't in our database?

Kim would enter the name of her high school and click "Confirm".

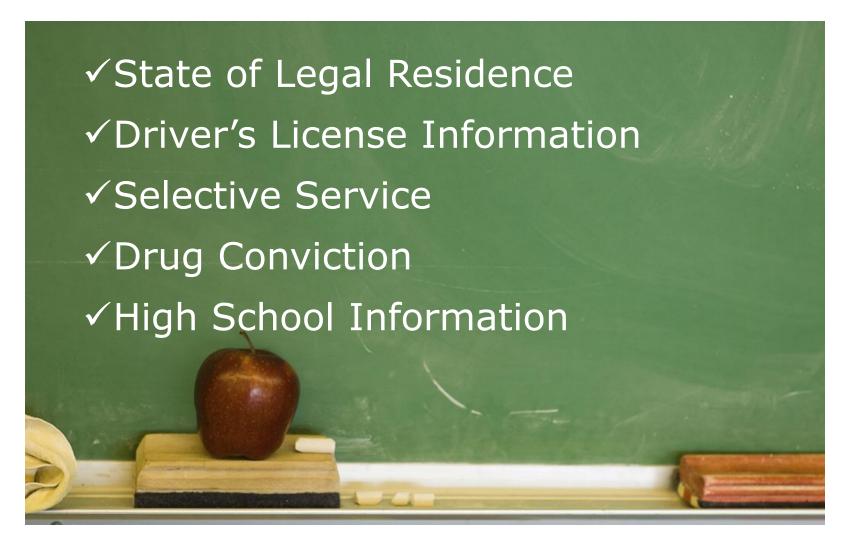
FOTW finds no matching results and tells Kim to confirm that the information she entered is correct.

If it's correct, Kim clicks "Next" and FOTW saves her response.





What We've Covered So Far





PROVIDING PARENTAL INFORMATION



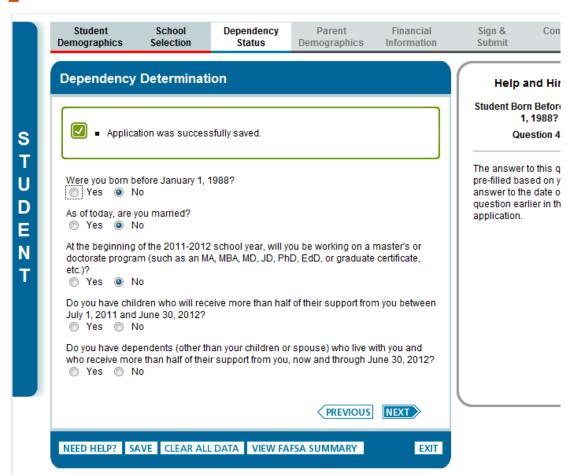
Dependency Status

We pre-populate answers to –

- Were you born before...
- Are you married..
- Working on a master's/graduate degree..

We ask all students to complete –

- Do you have children..
- Do you have dependents...





Skip Logic – Homeless Students 21 or younger Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and

2012?

Yes
No

Yes
No

Yes
No

Yes
No

emancipated minor?

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

foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

than training? Yes
No

Kim indicates that she is homeless or at risk of being homeless.

She would be presented with three additional homeless questions to determine if she has the appropriate "determination".

Kim answers "No" to those 3 questions because she does not have a determination.

> START HERE GO FURTHER

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal quardianship? Yes
No On or after July 1, 2010, were you homeless or were you at risk of being homeless? Yes
No At any time on or after July 1, 2010, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? Yes
No At any time on or after July 1, 2010, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? Yes
No At any time on or after July 1, 2010, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? Yes
No PREVIOUS NEXT NEED HELP? SAVE CLEAR ALL DATA VIEW FAFSA SUMMARY

who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30,

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

At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in

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

Unacco Homeles Determined

> Homeless' Ques

Select Yes if determinatio director of a homeless yo center or trar program at a after July 1, 2 were an una youth who w or self-suppo risk of being

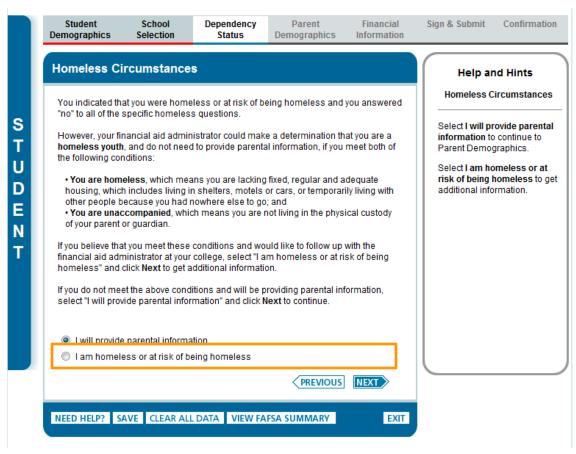
> Unaccomp you are no physical ci parent or c

EXIT

Skip Logic – Homeless Students 21 or younger

But because Kim indicated she was homeless, FOTW informs Kim of her option to receive a determination from the financial aid office if she meets the homeless youth criteria.

If Kim proceeds down this path, she can submit her application without parental information.



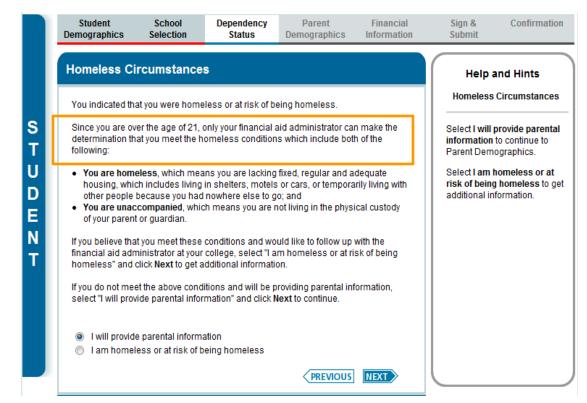


Skip Logic – Homeless Students 22 or 23 years old

If Kim was born in 1988, she would be 22 years old.

She would not meet the definition of homeless youth, and could not answer "yes" to the FAFSA homeless questions.

Kim would not be presented with those questions but instead would be taken directly to the homeless circumstance path and provided messaging about working with the FAA.

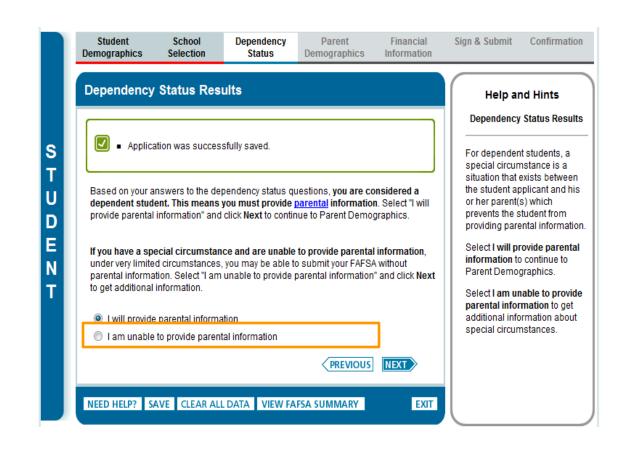




Providing Parental Information

Chris has answered "No" to all the dependency status questions and has to provide parental.

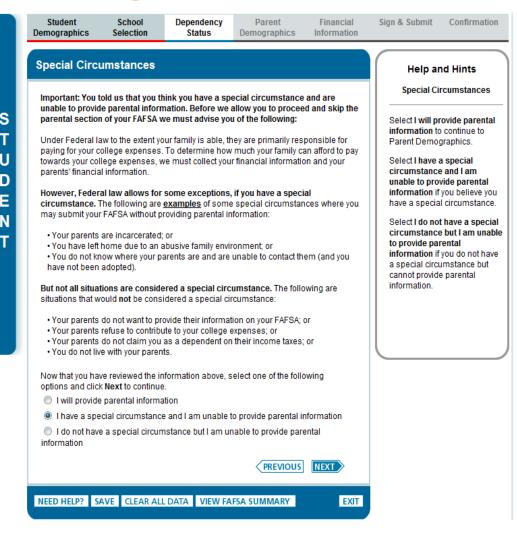
FOTW does provide an option if he is unable to provide parental information.





Skip Logic - Providing Parental Info

- ✓If Chris thinks he has a special circumstance, FOTW will allow him to skip the parental section of the application.
- ✓If he doesn't have a special circumstance but is still unable to provide parental information FOTW will present information about receiving unsubsidized loan only.





Skip Logic - Providing Parental Info

Chris would be presented with information about next steps if he wanted to continue the application without parental information.

School Dependency Parent Financial Sign & Submit Confirmation Student Status Demographics Selection Demographics Information Unable to Provide Parental Information **Help and Hints** Unable to Provide Parental You told us that you are unable to provide parental information. Information Review the following to continue. Select I will provide parental information to continue to 1. We will allow you to submit your FAFSA without parental information, however Parent Demographics. your FAFSA will not be considered complete. 2. Because your FAFSA is not considered complete, we will not calculate your Select I am unable to provide Expected Family Contribution (EFC) which is the index used by colleges to parental information and determine how much student aid you are eligible to receive. acknowledge that my FAFSA If you are approaching any deadlines for your state, college, or scholarship aid. will be submitted without you may want to contact your financial aid administrator before submitting your calculating an EFC to confirm FAFSA without parental data. that you will not provide 4. Once you submit your FAFSA without parental data, you must follow up with parental information on your the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend, in order to FAFSA. When you click Next, complete your FAFSA and receive an EFC. Also, note the following: you will skip questions about your parents and go directly to the next set of student · Under Federal law, only your financial aid administrator has the authority to questions. decide whether or not you must provide parental information on your FAFSA. You will have to provide documentation to verify your situation. Gather as much written evidence of your situation as you can. Written evidence may include court or law enforcement documents, letters from a clergy member, school counselor or social worker, and/or any other relevant data that explains your special circumstance. · After reviewing your circumstances carefully, your financial aid administrator will decide if you must provide parental information or if your circumstances allow you to proceed without providing parental data. Your financial aid administrator's decision is final and can not be appealed to Federal Student Aid. Select one of the following options and click Next to continue. I will provide parental information I am unable to provide parental information and acknowledge that my FAFSA will be submitted without calculating an EFC PREVIOUS NEXT NEED HELP? SAVE CLEAR ALL DATA VIEW FAFSA SUMMARY EXIT



What We've Covered So Far

✓ Dependency Questions ✓ Homeless students 21 or younger ✓ Homeless students 22 or 23 years old ✓ Special Circumstance Path ✓ Unsubsidized Loan Only Path

What's Next.... Financial Information Skip Logic





AUTO-ZERO AND SNT



Simplified Needs Analysis Criteria

Income Criteria

- Automatic Zero Income is \$31,000 or less
- Simplified Needs Test Income is \$50,000 or less

Eligibility Criteria

- □ A dislocated worker; or
- ☐ Has received 1 of the 5 Federal Benefits; or
- ☐ Was eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ.

State Participation

• Each state indicates participation in the simplified EFC calculations. If a student resides in a participating state they will be allowed to skip.



1. Income criteria must be met

If the income exceeds the auto-zero or SNT criteria; we do not need to check the eligibility criteria.

	Student Demographics	School Selection	Dependency Status	Parent Demographics	Student Demographics	School Selection	Dependency Status	Parent Demograph		
	Parent Finar	ncial Informa	ation		Parent Financial Information					
	What type of inco	ome tax return di	d your mother file fo	or 2010?	What type of income tax return did your mother file for 2010? IRS 1040					
	What was your n \$25,000		d gross income for OME ESTIMATOR	2010?	What was your r \$45,000		d gross income for OME ESTIMATOR	2010?		
	How much did y \$30,000	our mother earn	from working (wag	es, salaries, tips, etc.	How much did your mother earn from working (wages, salarie \$45,000 .00					
	As of today, is yo	our mother a disl	ocated worker?		As of today, is yo No ▼	our mother a disl	ocated worker?			



2A. Eligibility Criteria has to be met

Auto-zero or SNT criteria have been met if income tax return completed is "1040A or 1040EZ" **or** if dislocated worker is "Yes".

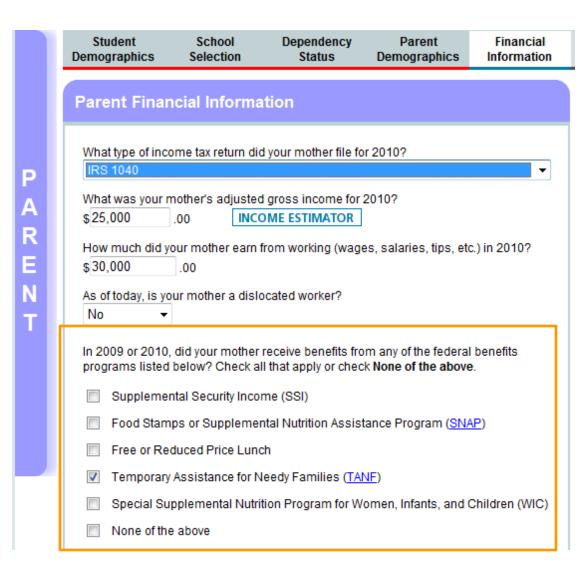
	Student Demographics	School Selection	Dependency Status	Parent Demographics	Financial Information
	Parent Finan	icial Informa	ntion		
Р	What type of inco	me tax return di	d your mother file fo	or 2010?	•
	What was your n	nother's adjusted	d gross income for:	2010?	
A	\$25,000	.00 INC	OME ESTIMATOR		
R	How much did your mother earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.)				c.) in 2010?
ΕI	\$30,000	.00			
N	As of today, is yo	ur mother a dislo	ocated worker?		
7	No ▼				



2B. Eligibility Criteria has to be met

If criteria is not met by prior questions, we then present the federal benefits question.

If applicant selects any of the benefits, the criteria has been met.

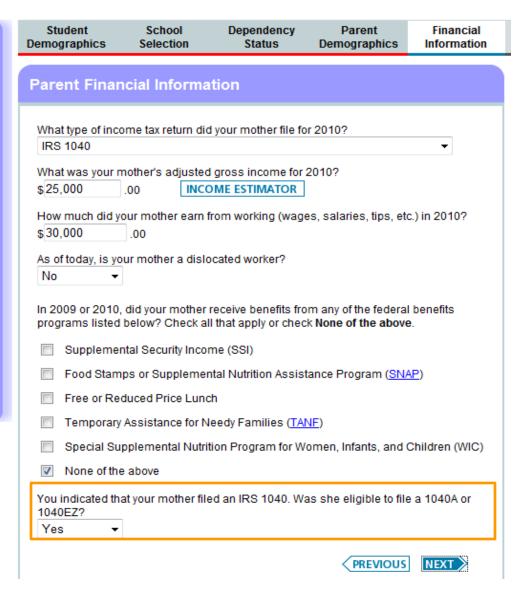




2C. Eligibility Criteria has to be met

If auto-zero is not met by prior questions, we then present the "eligible for 1040A or 1040EZ?".

If applicant selects "Yes", the criteria has been met.





3A. State Participation is Determined States that allow Simplified Needs Calculations

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Alberta
- American Samoa
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- British Columbia
- California
- Canada
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Florida
- Foreign Country
- Guam
- Idaho

- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Manitoba
- Marshall Islands
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Mexico
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada

- New Brunswick
- New Hampshire
- New York
- Newfoundland
- Newfoundland
- Labrador
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Northwest Territories
- Nova Scotia
- Nunavut
- Ontario
- Oregon
- Palau

- Pennsylvania
- Prince Edward Island
- Puerto Rico
- Quebec (PQ)
- Quebec (QC)
- Rhode Island
- Saskatchewan
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Virgin Islands
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Yukon



3B. State Participation is Determined

States that do not allow Simplified Needs Calculations

- Colorado
- District of Columbia
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Minnesota
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- Ohio

- Oklahoma
- South Carolina
- Vermont
- Washington
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming



Simplified Needs Analysis Impacts

Students who meet the criteria **do not** have to provide responses for –

Automatic Zero – Dependent Student

- Parent Income tax and exemption questions
- Parent Additional Financial Information questions
- Parent Untaxed Income questions
- Parent Asset questions
- Student Financial Questions

Simplified Needs Test – Dependent Student

- Parents Asset questions
- Student Asset questions



Simplified Needs Analysis Impacts

Students who meet the criteria **do not** have to provide responses for –

Automatic Zero – Independent Student

- Student Income tax and exemption questions
- Student Additional Financial Information questions
- Student Untaxed Income questions
- Student Asset questions

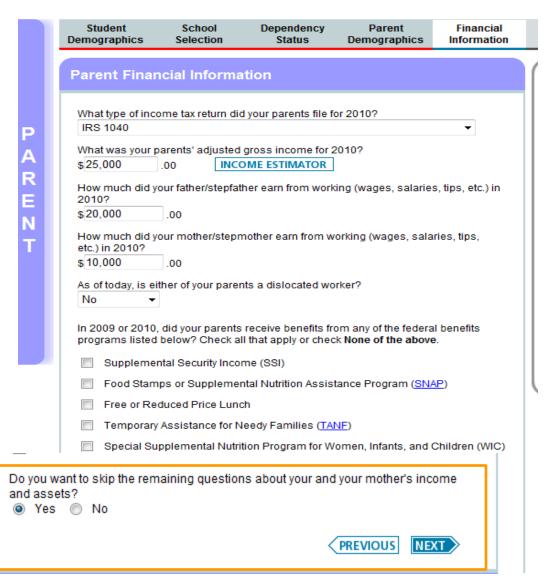
Simplified Needs Test - Independent Student

Student Asset questions



When Auto-Zero Criteria is Met

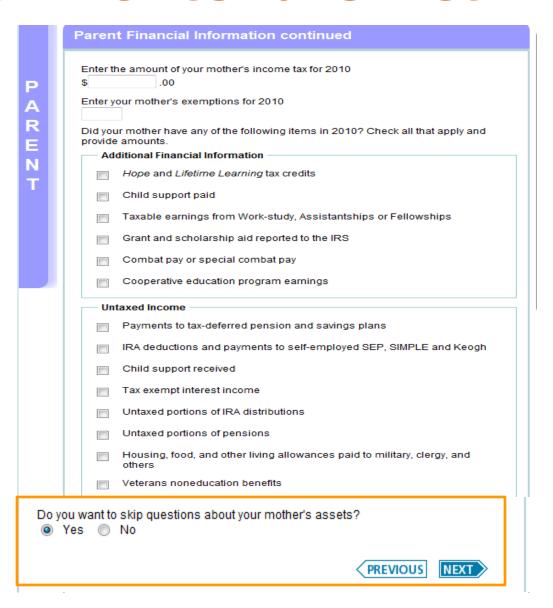
"Do you want to skip the remaining questions about your parents' income and assets?"





When SNT Criteria is Met

"Do you want to skip questions about your parents' assets?"



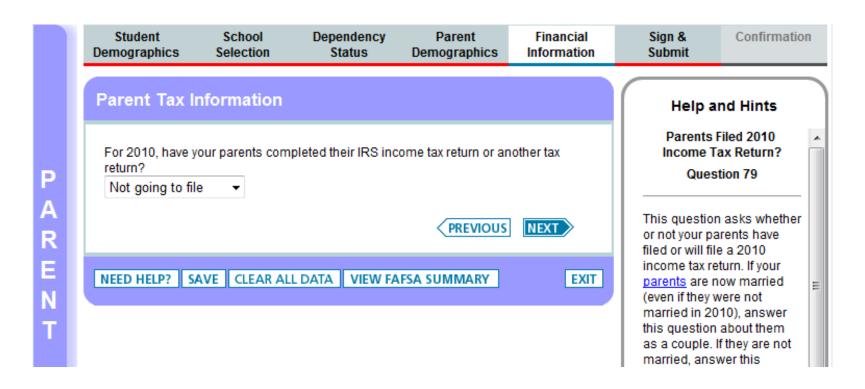


NON TAX FILERS



Not Going To File

Only presented with questions that are not tax return related.





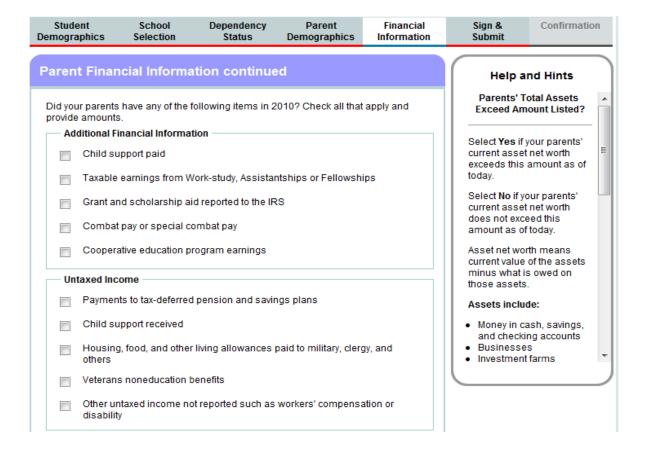
Non Filers - Earnings

Student Demographics	School Selection	Dependency Status	Parent Demographics	Financial Information	Sign & Submit	Confirmation
Parent Finan	icial Inform	ation			Help	and Hints
How much did yo	our father/stepfa	ther earn from work	ting (wages, salarie:	s, tips, etc.) in	2010 Incom	Stepfather's e Earned from Vork
\$30,000	.00				Que	stion 86
How much did yo	our mother/step	mother earn from w	orking (wages, sala	ries, tips,	If your father	er or stepfather
\$19,000	.00				A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF	axes include
As of today, is eit	ther of your pare	nts a dislocated wo	rker?		2010 W-2 F	orms – box
No →					numbers 1	- 190 - 5000
			PREVIOUS	NEXT	filed or will f	or stepfather ile a tax return,
					enter the "w tips, etc." fro	ages, salaries, m his 2010
NEED HELP? SA	AVE CLEAR A	LL DATA VIEW FA	AFSA SUMMARY	EXIT	income tax r	
						Federal Work- other need-
					based empl	
					If your parer	te filed a joint



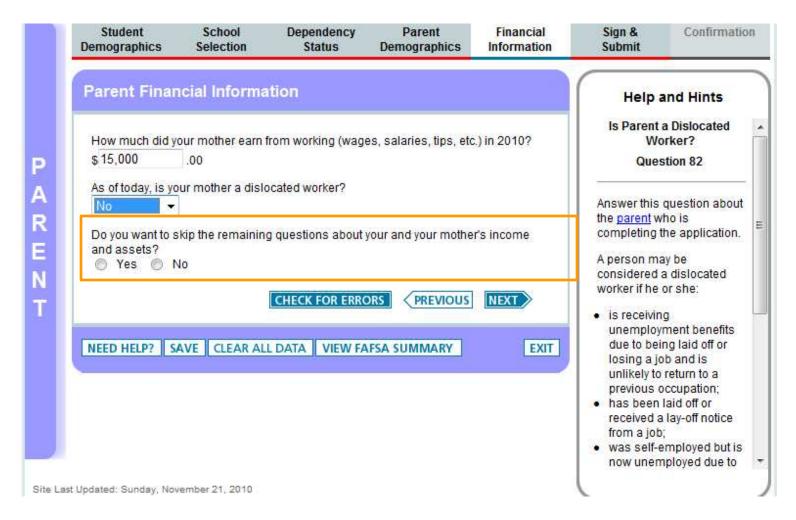
Non Filers

Subset of Additional Financial Information and Untaxed Income questions



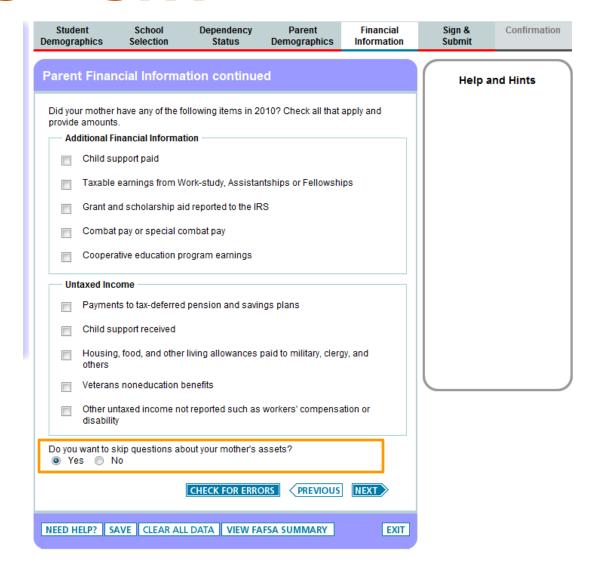


Non Filers - Auto-Zero





Non Filers - SNT





Non Tax Filer Edit

X

The following error(s) have occurred:

 4039: You reported that the student's parents will not file an income tax return, but the amount you reported for father's and mother's income appears to be over the minimum amount required for filing a tax return. Change the answer to tax return status or income amount for father and mother.



Review the answers to the questions on this page and make corrections or updates as needed. Once you are done, click **Check For Errors** to continue.

Note: You or your parents reported that a tax return was not filed even though the income reported meets the IRS requirements for filing one. To view the IRS requirements click IRS tax filing requirements. If you confirm that your answers are correct, we will not calculate an estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) when you submit your FAFSA. Contact the financial aid office at your college for assistance.

FAFSA Question	Current Response
For 2010, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?	Not going to file ▼
How much did your father/stepfather earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2010?	Enter whole dollar amounts in this box, and do not use commas. \$ 10,000 .00
How much did your mother/stepmother earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2010?	Enter whole dollar amounts in this box, and do not use commas. \$25,000 .00

CHECK FOR ERRORS

NEED HELP?

EXIT

Help and Hints

Parents Filed 2010 Income Tax Return? Question 79

question asks w

This question asks whether or not your parents have filed or will file a 2010 income tax return. If your parents are now married (even if they were not married in 2010), answer this question about them as a couple. If they are not married, answer this question about the parent who is reporting financial information on this application.

Select the option that indicates your parents' 2010 income tax return filing status:

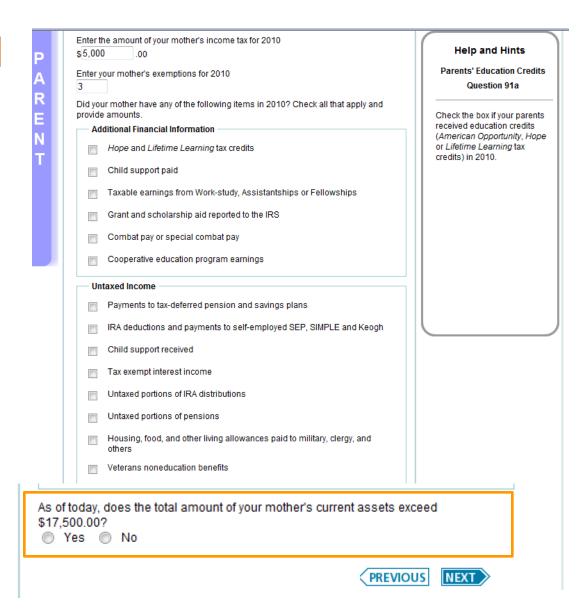


ASSET NET WORTH THRESHOLD



Asset net worth threshold

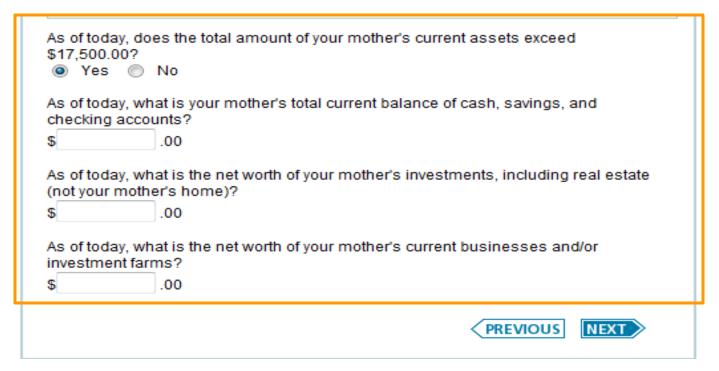
Parents of dependent students and independent students will be presented with the asset net worth threshold question, if they are not eligible for auto-zero or simplified needs test; and if the student's state of legal residence allows the applicant to skip the asset question.





Asset Net Worth Threshold

• If answer is "yes", the three asset questions will display.



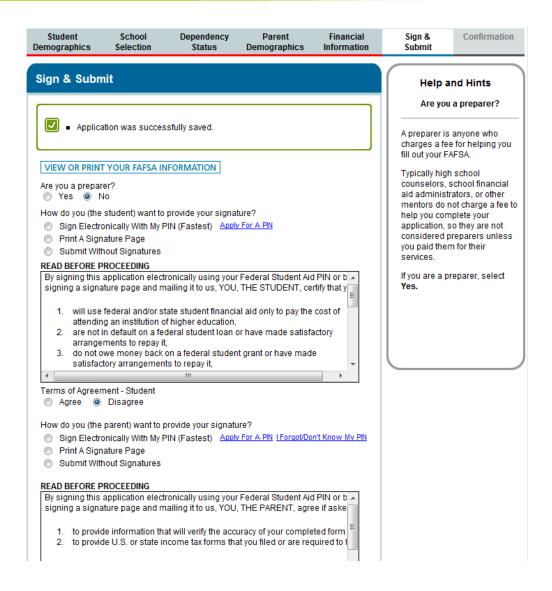
■ If answer is "no", the asset questions will not display, as we do not need to count the asset value in the calculation of the EFC.



SUBMITTING THE FAFSA



Signing and Submitting the FAFSA





Confirmation Page

- √Confirmation Number
- ✓ Data Release Number (DRN)
- ✓ EFC estimate
- ✓ Pell Grant and Direct Loan estimates
- ✓Option for parents to transfer info to an application for a sibling
- ✓Option to transfer info to a state application if state is participating in API
- ✓ College rates for each college on the FAFSA



Confirmation

Confirmation Number:

F 01200522304 10/28/2010 16:51:23

Data Release Number (DRN): 1040

2011-2012

Confirmation Page

Congratulations, Kim! Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid. You should print this page for your records.

Optional Feature - Transfer your parents' information into another FAFSA - Do your parents need to complete a FAFSA for your brother or sister? Click here and all the information your parents provided in this application will be transferred to a new FAFSA. Your parents will have to provide a signature again, but that's all.

:::: Eligibility Information

Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 04443

The EFC is an index that schools use to determine your eligibility and is not the amount of money that you have to pay. Your schools financial aid office will use your EFC to determine the specific types and amounts of student aid you are eligible to receive.

You may be eligible to receive the following:

Pell Grant Estimate - \$1,176

Direct Stafford Loan Estimate - \$5,500

You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.

College Rates

The table shows the <u>graduation, retention, and transfer rates</u> for the schools you selected. Go to the College Navigator Web site at <u>www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator</u> for complete information.

School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate
DUBURN UNIVERSITY	NA	NA	NA
ART INSTITUTE OF CHARLOTTE (THE)	49%	47%	6%
DUKE UNIVERSITY	95%	97%	NA
BENNETT COLLEGE	48%	76%	NA
CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLE	GE 8%	60%	33%

Next Steps

The colleges you listed will have access to your FAFSA information once your application is processed. For more information about student aid go to www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/aidinfo. Return to FAFSA on the Web at any time to check the status of your application, or to make corrections or changes.

..... Contact Us

If you have questions, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or 319-337-5665. If you are hearing-impaired and have questions, contact the TTY line at 1-800-730-8913.

PRINT THIS PAGE E-MAIL THIS PAGE

QUESTIONS





Contact Information

We appreciate your feedback and comments. We can be reached at:

- Shamarli Kollock
 Shamarli Kollock@ed.gov
- Michele Brown
 Michele.Brown@ed.gov

