



Please return this form to:

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2019-2020 PARENT MARITAL STATUS VERIFICATION

SECTION A: STUDENT INFORMATION

STUDENT NAME: _____ STUDENT ID: _____

Your application has been selected for Verification. We are required by federal law (34 CFR, Part 668) to compare the information from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the information on this form.

PLEASE NOTE:

- ✓ We cannot continue processing your financial aid until all required financial aid documents have been submitted.
- ✓ All required documents must be returned to our office within two weeks.
- ✓ We will update your FAFSA, if needed, based on the information provided on this form.

SECTION B: PARENT MARITAL STATUS

WHO IS CONSIDERED A PARENT? "Parent" refers to a biological or adoptive parent. Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, older siblings, and uncles or aunts are not considered parents for federal student aid purposes, unless they have legally adopted you. **In case of divorce or separation, give information about the parent you lived with most in the past 12 months.** If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give information about the parent who provided you the most financial support during the past 12 months or during the most recent year you received support. If your divorced or widowed parent has remarried, also provide information about their current spouse.

1. AFTER READING THE BOX ABOVE "WHO IS CONSIDERED A PARENT?" CHECK THE BOX BELOW FOR THE PARENT WHO FITS THIS DESCRIPTION.

FATHER MOTHER

NAME OF PARENT CHECKED ABOVE: _____ (This parent must complete and sign this form.)

ADDRESS OF PARENT CHECKED ABOVE: _____

2. CHECK THE CORRECT MARITAL STATUS OF THE PARENT INDICATED ABOVE ON THE DATE YOU FILED YOUR INITIAL 2019-2020 FAFSA APPLICATION. (IF STATUS HAS CHANGED SINCE INITIAL FAFSA WAS FILED, CONTACT THE STUDENT ONE STOP CENTER.)

- MARRIED/REMARRIED AS OF _____/_____/_____ (Provide month/day/year of current marriage)
- DIVORCED (NOT REMARRIED) AS OF _____/_____/_____ (Provide month/day/year of divorce)
- SEPARATED (LIVE TOGETHER) AS OF _____/_____/_____ (Provide month/day/year of separation)
- SEPARATED (LIVE SEPARATE ADDRESSES) AS OF _____/_____/_____ (Provide month/day/year of separation)
- WIDOWED (NOT REMARRIED) AS OF _____/_____/_____ (Provide month/day/year of spouse's death)
- NEVER MARRIED (SINGLE)
- OTHER PLEASE EXPLAIN: _____

3. IF ANSWER TO QUESTION 2 IS "SEPARATED", DOES PARENT INTEND TO PROCEED WITH A DIVORCE? YES NO

IF **NO**, WHY NOT? _____

4. HAS PARENT'S MARITAL STATUS CHANGED SINCE THE DAY YOU FILED THE INITIAL 2019-2020 FAFSA?

NO, MY PARENT'S MARITAL STATUS HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE I FILED THE FAFSA.

YES, CURRENT MARITAL STATUS IS _____ AS OF _____/_____/_____ (CURRENT STATUS) (MONTH/DAY/YEAR)

SECTION C: CERTIFICATION

By signing this form, I certify the information on the form and any attachments are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and that there is no forgery of signature(s). The information supplied on this form supersedes that which was provided on the FAFSA. I understand that any false statements or misrepresentation may be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid, and I may be subject to a fine, imprisonment or both, under provisions of the United States Criminal Code.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

WHO IS MY "PARENT" WHEN I FILL OUT THE FAFSA?

WHICH PARENT'S INFORMATION SHOULD I REPORT ON THE FAFSA?

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 questions about both of them.
- If your parents are separated but live together, you'll indicate their marital status as "Married or remarried," and you'll answer the questions about both of them.
- If you have a stepparent who is married to the legal parent whose information you're reporting, you must provide information about that stepparent as well.
- The following people are not your parents unless they have adopted you: grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, older brothers or sisters, and uncles or aunts.

EXCEPTION: The FAFSA asks about your parents' education level. For these two questions, your parents are considered to be your birth parents or adoptive parents—your stepparent is not your parent in those questions.

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 MY 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 FAFSA will tell you what to do if you are in this situation. You also will need to speak to the financial aid administrator at the college or career school you plan to attend.

WHAT IF I HAVE NO CONTACT WITH MY PARENTS?

If you don't know where your parents live, or you've left home due to an abusive situation, fill out the FAFSA and then immediately get in touch with the financial aid office at the college or career school you plan to attend. The financial aid administrator will tell you what to do next. Don't put this off or you might miss financial aid deadlines!

**Find out whether you're a dependent student: see "Am I Dependent or Independent?" at studentaid.gov/resources.*

For more information on federal student aid, visit StudentAid.gov or call 1.800.433.3243.

Source:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/fafsa-parent.pdf>