

Federal and New York State Update

Winter 2016

FAFSA & Federal Student Aid Updates



2016-17 FAFSA Timeline

- FSA ID Now Live
- 2016-17 FAFSA on the Web demo @ fafsademo.test.ed.gov – Now Live
- 2016-17 FAFSA on the Web Now Live
- IRS Data Retrieval Tool February 2016



Notable FAFSA Updates for 2016-17

- FAFSA.com is transferring their web domain over to the US Department of Education
- The FSA ID process
- FAFSA college list will no longer be shared with colleges
- Update to the Legal Guardianship question
- In 2017-18, move "prior prior year" tax info



End of FAFSA.COM

You have accessed www.FAFSA.com

Student Financial Aid Services, Inc. is in the process of transferring this web domain to the U.S. Department of Education.

U.S. Department of Education Student Financial Aid Services, Inc. Please click the link below if you would like to fill out If you are an existing client of Student Financial Aid the Free Application for Federal Student Aid Services and would like to access your account, (FAFSA), which needs to be completed to apply for please click the SFAS button below. federal student aid (grant, work-study and loans) Please visit www.StudentAid.gov if you would like to If you would like to file a FAFSA, please visit learn more about federal student aid and the FAFSA www.FAFSA.gov. form. Dept of ED **SFAS**

The website and text herein do not constitute an endorsement of a non-government product or service.



FAFSA.GOV



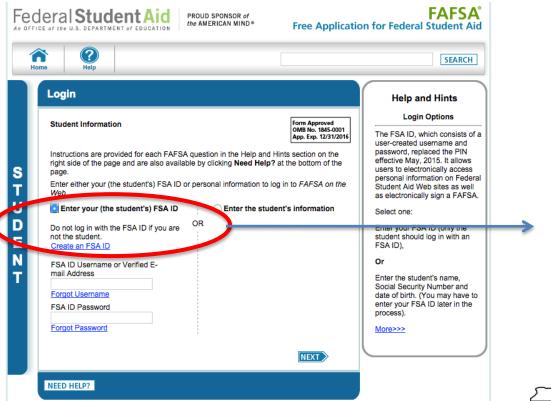


Before Starting the FAFSA

- Students and parents should each apply for their own Federal Student Aid ID (FSAID)
 - Replaces the PIN process
 - Used to access features and sign FAFSA electronically
 - Can be applied for while filing the FAFSA application or directly at FSAID.ed.gov



Creating the FSA ID via FAFSA.GOV



Click "Create an FSA ID"

FSA ID is also directly accessible at

fsaid.ed.gov

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FSAID.ED.GOV



Create a New FSA ID An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature. Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties. To create your own personal FSA ID, enter answers for the questions below and select CONTINUE. Important: When you are done click the CANCEL button to clear your data, even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires. Create An FSA ID Edit My FSA ID • Edit My FSA ID 0 E-mail • Frequently Asked Questions 0 Confirm E-mail 0 Username * 0 Password *

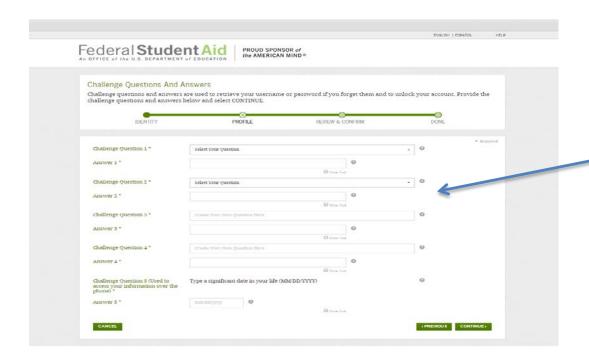


Common Issues

- The following are common issues that are causing trouble when users are creating FSA IDs:
 - Creating the FSA ID for another individual (e.g. parent for a student or student for a parent)
 - Using the same email address to create different FSA IDs
 - Failure of Social Security Administration match when a PIN is not linked



Create Account – Challenge Questions

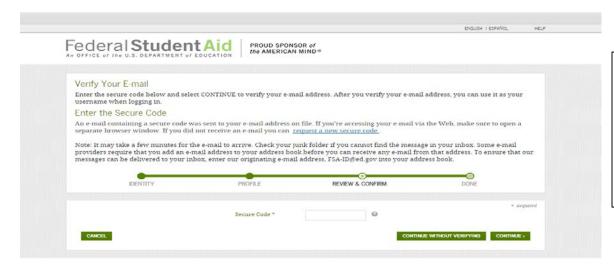


Five Challenge Questions are required for registration

All questions and answers must be unique



Create Account – Email Verification



A confirmation email will be sent to the email address provided. In this email, there is a secure verification code.

Verifying an email address is optional but provides added security and functionality such as:

- Use an email address as your Username for login
- Use email to recover Username or reset Password



FSA ID Help

- Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC): 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
 - Request escalation to the FSA ID team
- Web chat at FAFSA.gov
 - Help → Contact Us

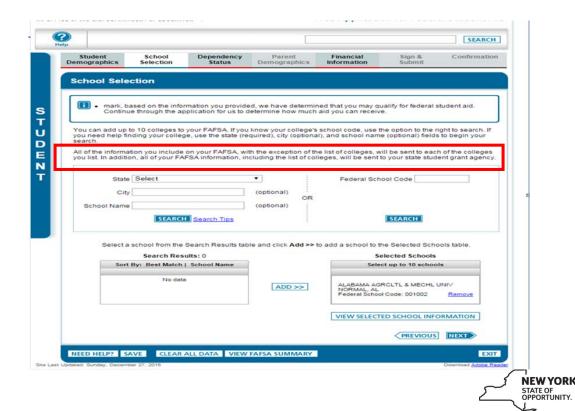


FAFSA: College Information Section

- College Information
 - Up to 10 colleges may be listed; can be updated by correction
- For 2016-17, the student's list of colleges will no longer be shared with colleges
 - only state grant agencies will continue to have access

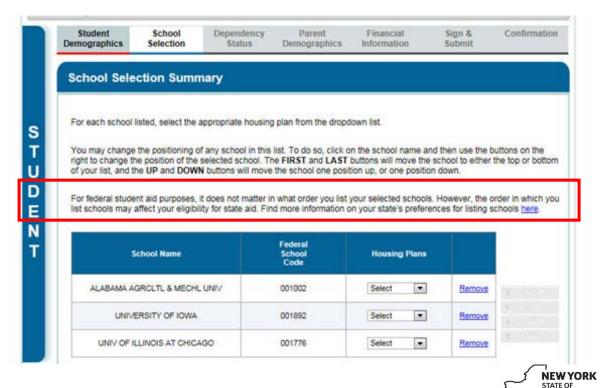


FAFSA: School Selection Page



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FAFSA: School Selection Summary Page



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OPPORTUNITY.

FAFSA: Dependency Status Section

- FAFSA provides questions to determine the dependency status of students
 - Generally, students under 24 years old are required to report parent info
 - Students answering YES to a question in this section may qualify them as an independent
 - For other special circumstances, consult with the financial aid office



FAFSA: Legal Guardianship Question

- Applicants sometimes answer the legal guardianship question incorrectly
- As a resolution, FAFSA question 55 has been reworded and help text has been modified



New Legal Guardianship Messaging

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

PREVIOUS

This is question 55 on the paper FAFSA.

For this question, the definition of legal guardianship does not include your parents, even if they were appointed by a court to be your guardian. You are also not considered a legal guardian of yourself.

Select Yes if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are in legal guardianship.

Also select **Yes** if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were in a legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.

Select No if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.

Also select No and contact your school if custody was awarded by the courts and the court papers say custody (not guardianship).

Note: The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide additional information such as a copy of the court's decision.

HELP PRINT

CLOSE



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Other 2016-17 FAFSA Changes

- Automatic Zero EFC threshold increased to \$25,000
- Tax line references in taxes paid questions changed to reflect the new 2015 federal income tax forms

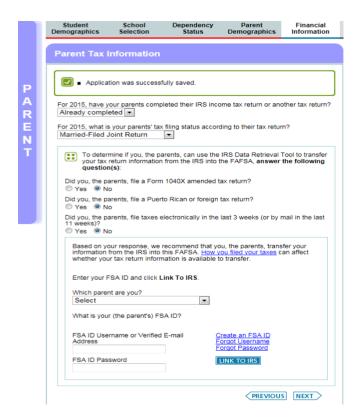


FAFSA: 2016-17 Income Information

- Parent, Student Income Information
 - Prior year income information will be requested from the 2015 federal income tax return
 - The IRS Data Retrieval Tool will be available in February to download 2015 federal tax info
 - Income estimates may be provided



FAFSA: IRS Data Retrieval Tool



- Connects to IRS for tax data of completed tax returns
- Electronic filers about 2 weeks after submittal
- Use for original FAFSA and corrections



Changes to the FAFSA for 2017-18

- Students will be able to submit a 2017-18 FAFSA as early as October 1, 2016
 - Students and parents will report income information from an earlier tax year (2015 instead of 2016).
- The pre-printed FAFSA will no longer be available.
 - The PDF FAFSA will still be available for download across multiple Federal Student Aid websites



TAP & New York State Student Aid Updates

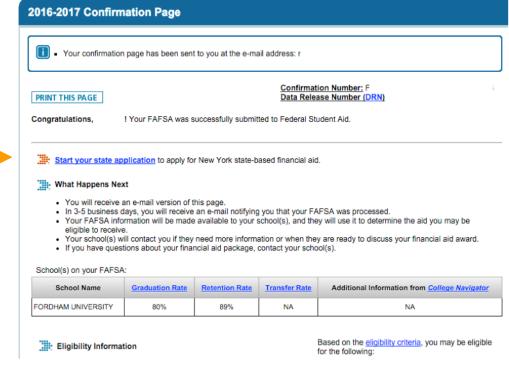


Notable TAP Application Updates for 2016-17

- Updated appearance
- Parent info will no longer be transferred from FAFSA
- Parents may use their Tax Filing ID Number (TIN) in place of a Social Security Number
- Updated Dependent Status screen to identify youth in foster care
- All missing documentation requests can be downloaded and uploaded from student's HESC account



How to Apply for New York State Aid





Anytime TAP-on-the-Web Application



TAP on the Web

Si desea llenar la versión en español de la solicitud del Programa TAP, <u>pulse aquí</u>.

Welcome to TAP on the Webl This online application process allows you to apply for New York State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). The New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) is the State's student financial aid agency, helping people pay for college by administering 19 student financial aid programs, including TAP, a highly successful College Savings program, and offering guidance to students, families and counselors.

To complete your online TAP application, you must first create a user name and personal identification number (PIN). Click here.

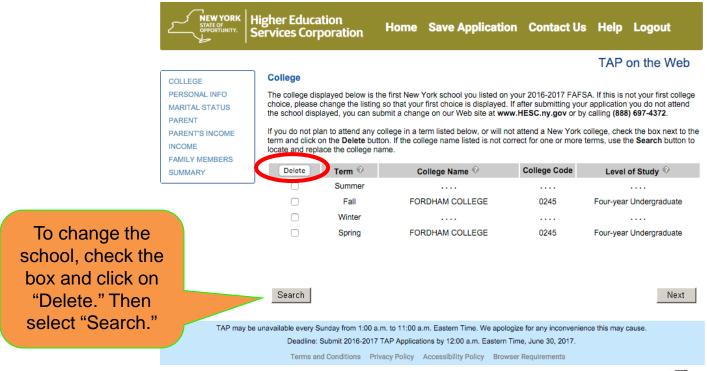
If you have not submitted a FAFSA application, you may do so at: www.fafsa.ed.gov

TAP may be unavailable every Sunday from 1:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Terms and Conditions Privacy Policy Accessibility Policy Browser Requirements



TAP: Single College Selection



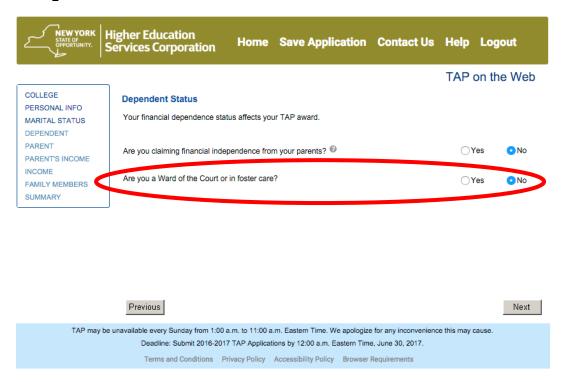


TAP: Independence

- Students under the age of 22 seeking independence for TAP must be able to:
 - Claim financial independence and answer No to Financial Independence Status (FIS) questions, and
 - Meet one of our "Special Conditions"
 - Ward of the court
 - Public assistance under own budget
 - Involuntary dissolution of family
 - Parents are deceased, permanently disabled, or declared incompetent

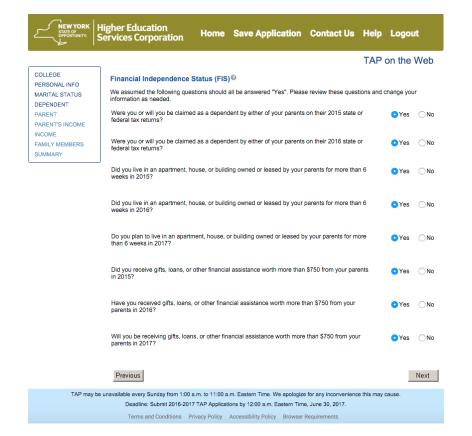


New: Dependent Status Screen



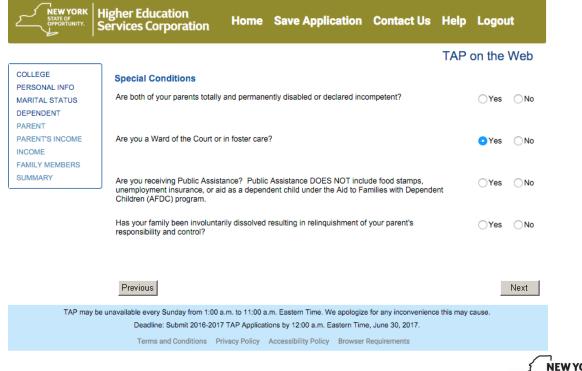


Financial Independence Status (FIS)





Special Conditions Screen



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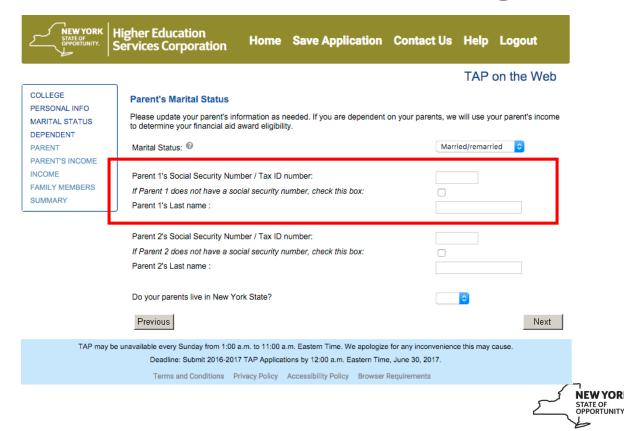
New: Parent Information Section

- Parent info will no longer be transferred from FAFSA for data security reasons
- Parents may now provide their Tax Filing ID Number (TIN) in place of a Social Security Number
- Parents without a SSN or TIN can leave the answer blank and check the appropriate box
 - Student will need to download and have parents complete a "signature page" from their TAP account



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New: Parents Information Page



New NYS Scholarship Programs

- Achievement & Investment in Merit Scholarship (AIMS)
- Masters-in-Education Teacher Incentive Scholarship Program



NYS Achievement and Investment in Merit Scholarship (NY-AIMS)

 NY-AIMS provides \$500, renewable, meritbased scholarships to New York State high school graduates who achieved academic excellence as a high school student, and enroll or plan to enroll in a public or private New York State college immediately after high school.

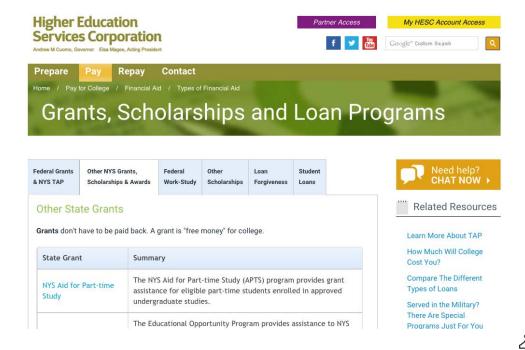


Other NYS Programs: NY-AIMS

- Eligibility and selection criteria
 - For study in New York State (public or private)
 - For students that achieve two of the following criteria
 - Graduate with a GPA of 3.3 or above
 - Graduate "with honors" on a NYS Regents diploma
 - Score 3 or higher at least two Advanced Placement (AP) exams
 - Graduate within the top 15% of high school class
 - Recipients will be selected and prioritized based on the unmet need per their financial aid award letter
 - Applications available in May 2016



Apply for Other NYS Programs at hesc.ny.gov





FAFSA Completion Initiative



FAFSA Completion Initiative

- Builds and expands on the success of the U.S. Department of Education's FAFSA Completion Pilot Project
- Allows schools direct access to FAFSA and TAP filing status information
- Your school and/or school district can easily identify students that may need assistance in completing the FAFSA
 - Non-DOE schools, college access programs can register with HESC to participate via email at FAFSACompletionInitiative@hesc.ny.gov
 - NYC DOE Schools must contact the Office of Post Secondary Readiness (OPSR)



More Info: hesc.ny.gov/FAFSA-Initiative



The Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) encourages all school districts and high schools to participate in the national FAFSA Completion Initiative in order to receive important Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) filing status information about your college-bound students.

Obtaining this information will allow your school and/or school district to identify and assist students and families in completing a FAFSA, thereby maximizing their access to free and low-cost financial aid to support their college costs.

There is no registration deadline! You can register for the FAFSA Completion Initiative any time. We encourage you to register now so you can access information beginning in January for your students entering college in fall 2015.

How to Join

 Complete, sign and submit a Data Access Security Agreement. A draft copy, as well the attachments Exhibit A and Appendix A, are available in the Related Resources column for your





Questions?



HESC Services and Support

Contact:

Michael Turner

Client Relations Manager

Michael.Turner@hesc.ny.gov

(347)881-6999 (cell)

NOT FOR STUDENTS OR PARENTS!



Thank You!

NYS Higher Education Services Corporation 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12255 www.hesc.ny.gov

1-888-NYSHESC (1-888-697-4372)

