

## 2024-25 FAFSA Overview

Amy Sawdey
PHEAA

## How does the FAFSA help me?

The FAFSA is a federal form used to determine student eligibility for the

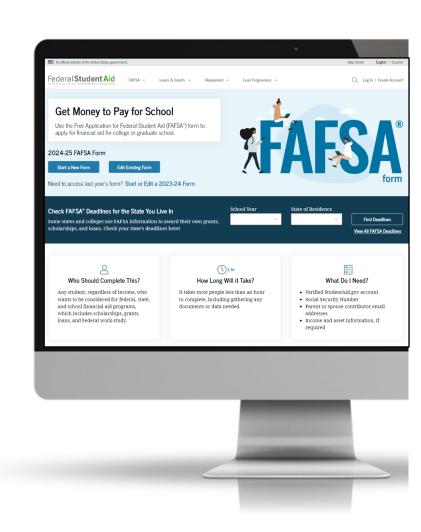
following:

- Federal programs
- State programs
- School programs



## Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- The FAFSA is the primary federal form for financial assistance to attend postsecondary school.
- While filing the FAFSA online is preferred at StudentAid.gov/FAFSA, a printable PDF version will also be available at StudentAid.gov.
- The FAFSA is available online in English and Spanish.
- For the 2024-25 FAFSA, 2022 tax information will be used.



## **Availability of the FAFSA**

2024-25 FAFSA – December 31, 2023



2025-26 FAFSA – October 1, 2024



## Advice on early filing

- Because full processing of FAFSA forms will not start until late January, students and families will have ample time to complete the 2024-25 FAFSA and do not need to rush to fill out the form immediately when the soft launch period opens.
- The schools they selected will receive their FAFSA eligibility information starting in late January. Students will receive an email informing them when that information has been sent to the schools.
- Students will receive an email when their FAFSA Submission Summary is available to review on StudentAid.gov.

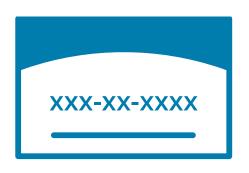
#### **School deadlines**

- Check FAFSA filing deadlines for each of your schools.
- Students do not have to be accepted for admission to list any schools on the FAFSA.

## Pennsylvania State Grant FAFSA Filing Deadline

- May 1 If you plan to enroll in a degree program or a college transferable program at a junior college or other college or university (excludes community colleges)
- August 1 If you are a first-time applicant and you plan to enroll in a community college; a business, trade, or technical school; a hospital school of nursing; or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution

## 2024-2025 Prepare to Apply



Social Security
Numbers



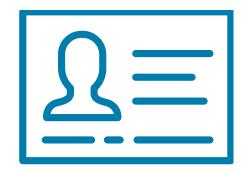
Email Addresses (Not high school email address)



2022 Federal Tax Returns



Current bank statements and records of other investment accounts (as of the FAFSA filing date including farm value and value of small business)



Student & Contributor(s)
Federal Student Aid
Account FSA ID



Current Records of any stocks, bonds and other investments, including 529 for student for whom the FAFSA is being completed



Total child support from the most recently complete calendar year

# Who fills out the FAFSA?

## Who is a Contributor?

A contributor is anyone who is asked to provide information on an applicant's FAFSA.

#### A contributor would be:

- Student
- Student Spouse (if applicable)
- A biological or adoptive parent; or
- The spouse of the remarried parent who is on the FAFSA stepparent

## **Student Personal Circumstances**

Will be 24 by January 1st of award year

Are married

Are working on a master's or doctorate

Serve in the U.S. armed forces or are a veteran

Since age 13 - had no living parent, were in foster care, or were a ward of the court

Are an emancipated minor

Have a court-ordered legal guardian Have children or dependents who live with them and receive more than half their support from them

Are an unaccompanied youth who is homeless

## Whose information is needed on the FAFSA?

#### **YES**

- Married parents living together
- Biological parents not married and living together
- Divorced or separated parents:
  - The parent that provided the most financial support to the student over the last 12 months.
  - If each parent provided the same amount of support, use the parent with the higher income.
- Stepparent If part of the student's household
- Adoptive parents

#### NO

- Foster Parents
- Legal Guardians
- Grandparents
- Anyone else the student is living with



## **Consent and Approval**

- It is a requirement for every contributor to the FAFSA to provide their consent to have federal tax information pulled directly from the IRS and then approve to disclose it to schools and state grant agencies.
- Consent and approval is required even if the contributor did not file a tax return.

If consent is not given the FAFSA will be rejected, and the applicant will not be eligible for federal financial aid.



## Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

- The student and all contributors need to create an FSA ID at <u>studentaid.gov/fsa-id</u>.
- Must create FSA ID and have it verified prior to starting the FAFSA. Create 4 days prior to completing the FAFSA.
- Legal signature for student and contributors.
- An email address is required to create an account
- Two Step Verification strongly encouraged to set up an authenticator app. Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator are free to download and use.

Social Security
Number

Username

**Email Address** 

**Password** 

Mobile Phone

**Security Questions** 

Enable Two-Step
Verification

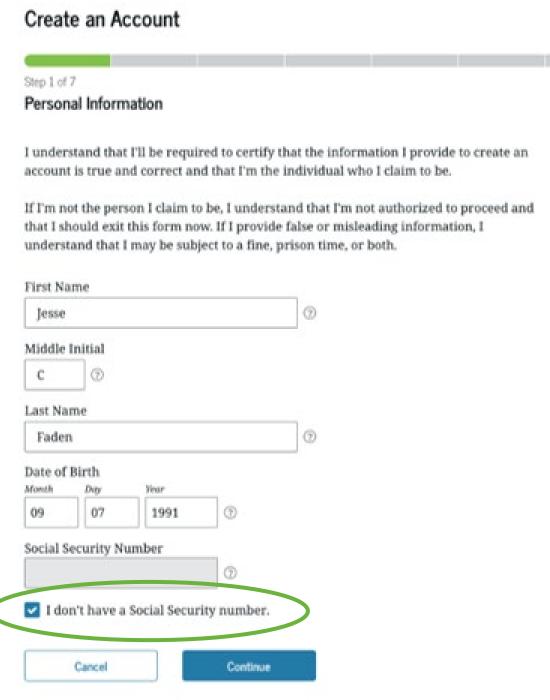
## Do both spouses need an FSA ID?



- No, only one parent needs an FSA ID if married parents filed a joint tax return together in 2022.
- If parents are married or living together and filed a separate tax return together in 2022, both parents will need an FSA ID account to contribute to the student's FAFSA.

## Creating FSA ID without a Social Security Number

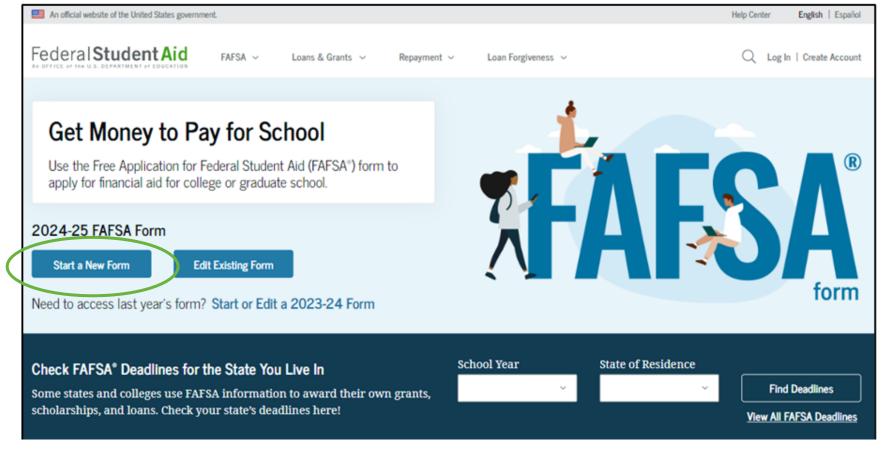
- Parent Contributors without an SSN will be able to acquire an FSA ID. However, all students completing the FAFSA must have a Social Security number.
- The process to create an FSA ID without a SS# would be for those FAFSA contributors without a SS#.
- Those without a SS# will be asked for their address and presented with knowledge-based verification questions to verify identity.



# How do I begin the FAFSA?

## Studentaid.gov/FAFSA

- Easily complete the FAFSA using online help at studentaid.gov/FAFSA
- Federal tax information will be transferred directly from the IRS into the form.



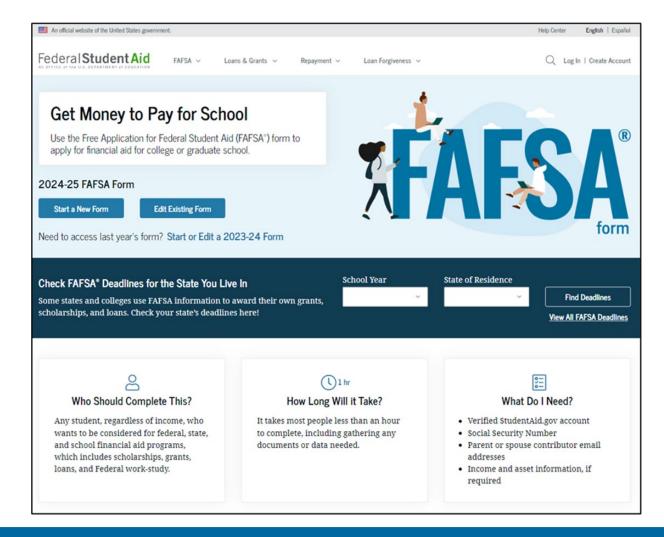
## **FAFSA Sections**

#### **Student Section**

- Personal circumstances
- Demographics
- Financials
- Colleges
- Signature

#### **Parent Section**

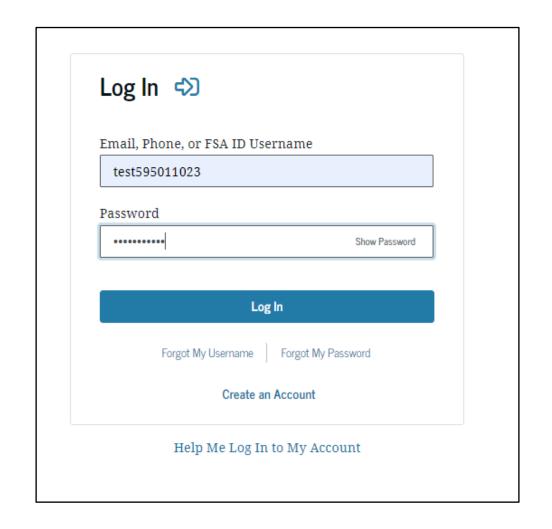
- Demographics
- Financials
- Signature



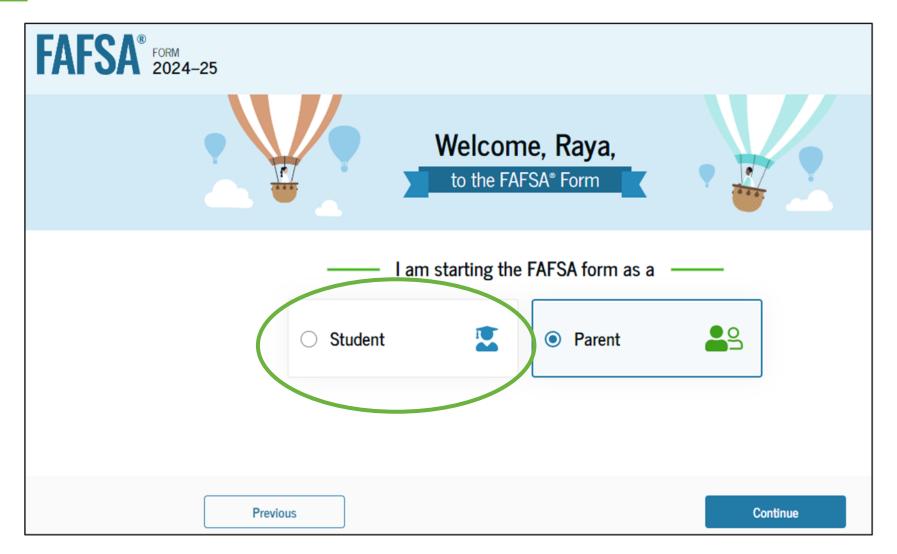
Student and Parent(s) must log in separately with their FSA ID to complete their respective sections.

## Student logging in using FSA ID

- Student will log in using their FSA ID – username and password
- If the student does not have an FSA ID, they would select "Create an Account"



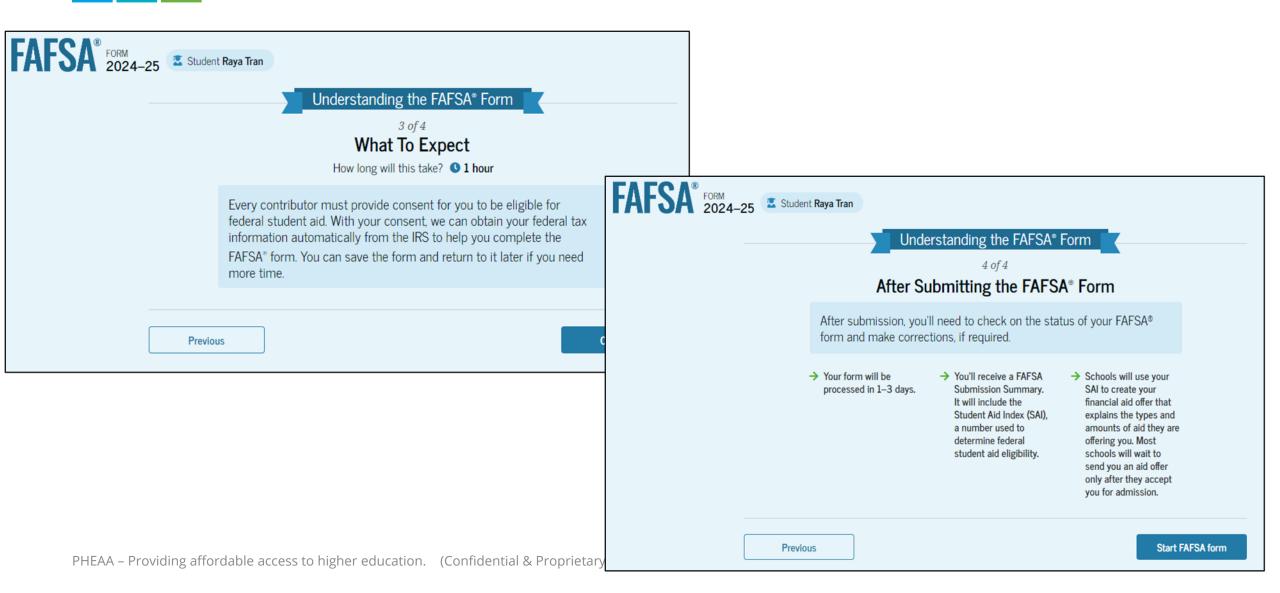
## **Starting the FAFSA**



## Student Onboarding Slides - 1 & 2



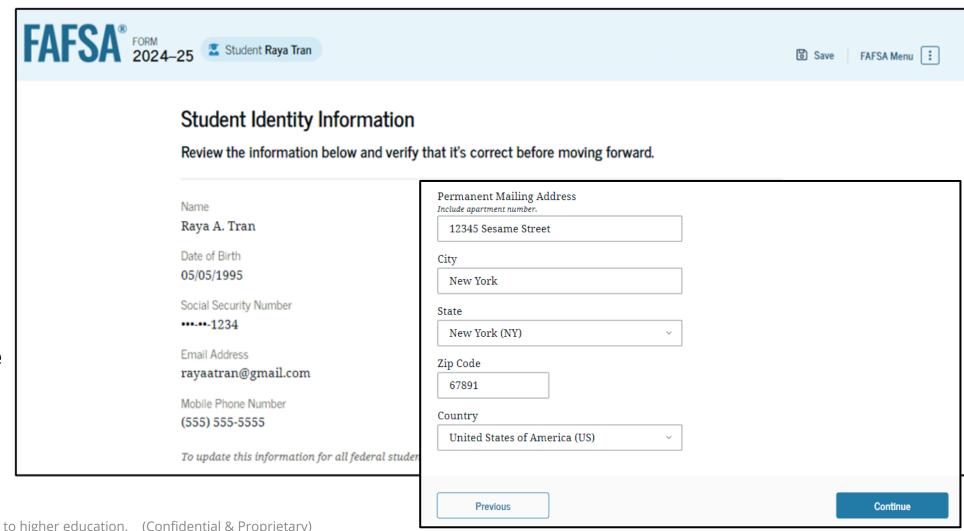
## **Student Onboarding Slides - 3 & 4**



## **Student Identity Information**

To update any of the personal information, the student must access their Account Settings on StudentAid.gov.

Student can update mailing address on this page.



## FAFSA Help/Menu



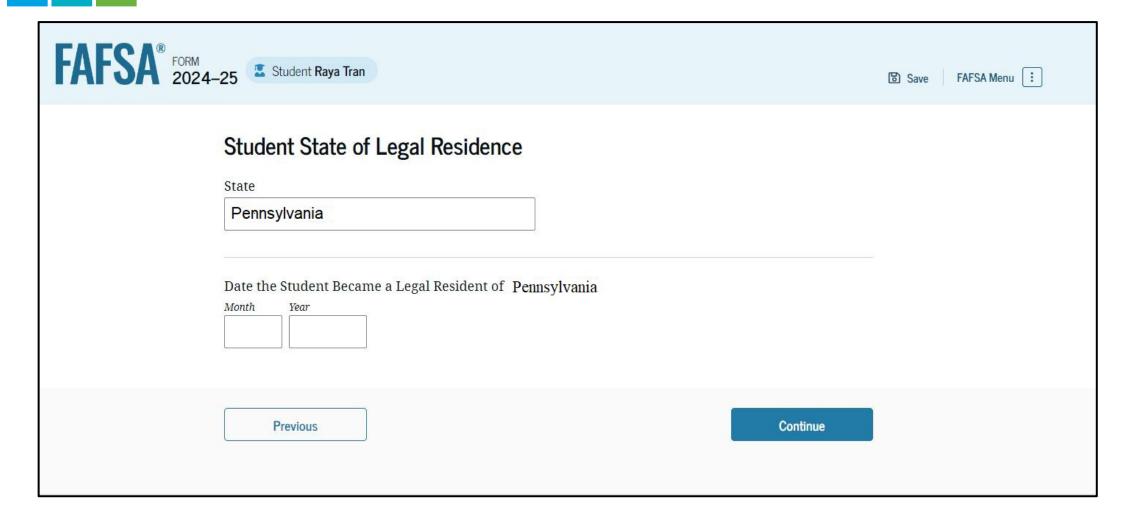
Click on the (i) icon after any question for more help and guidance!

Pennsylvania (PA)

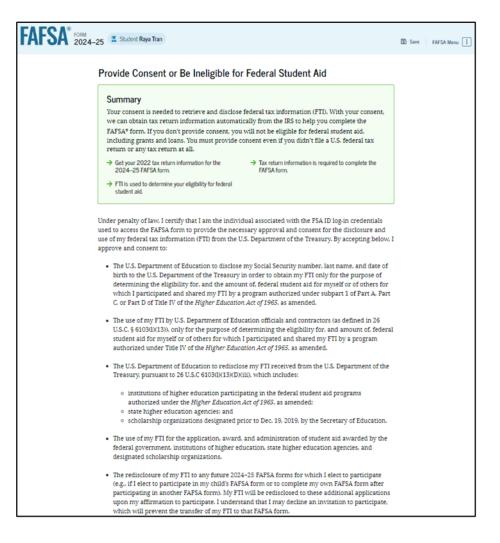
You can save the FAFSA and revisit the application at a later date. Your information will be stored for 45 days or until the application is submitted.

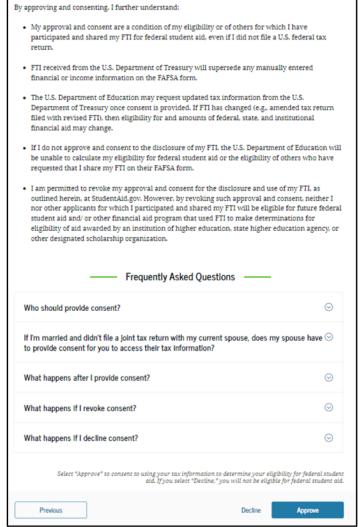


## **Student State of Legal Residence**



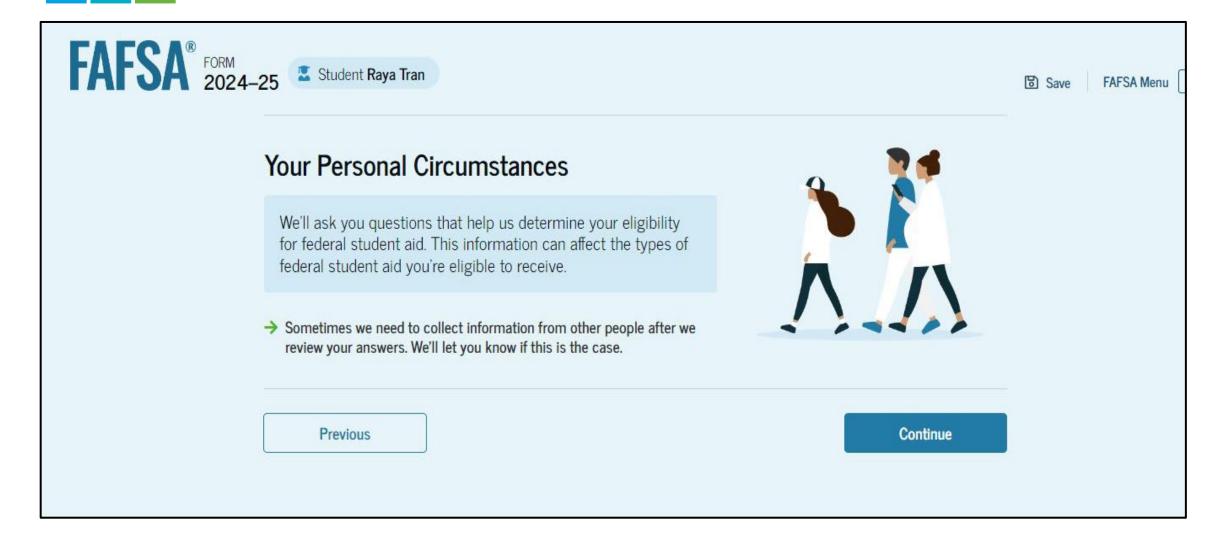
## **Student Provides Consent & Approval**



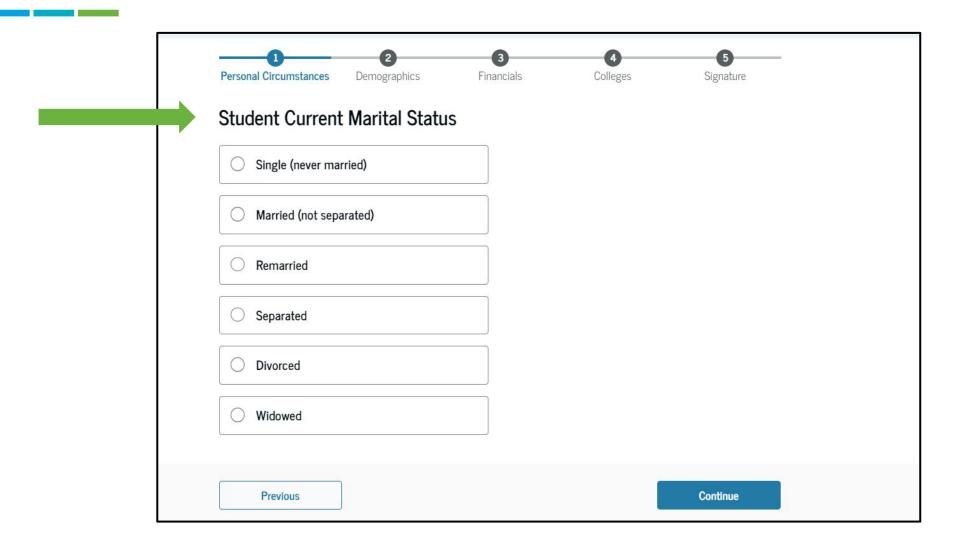


Consent and approval for the transfer of federal tax information are required to be eligible for federal student aid.

## **Student Personal Circumstances**

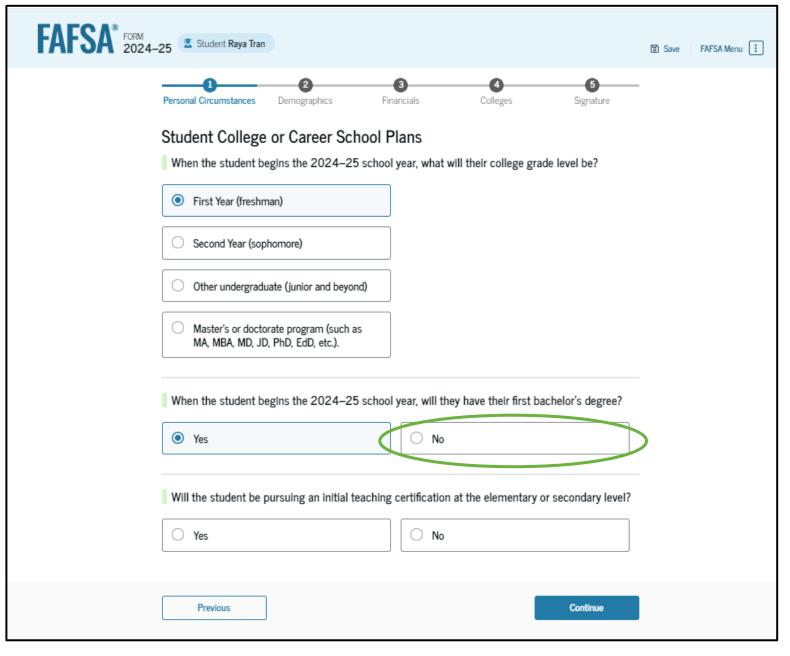


## **Student Marital Status**



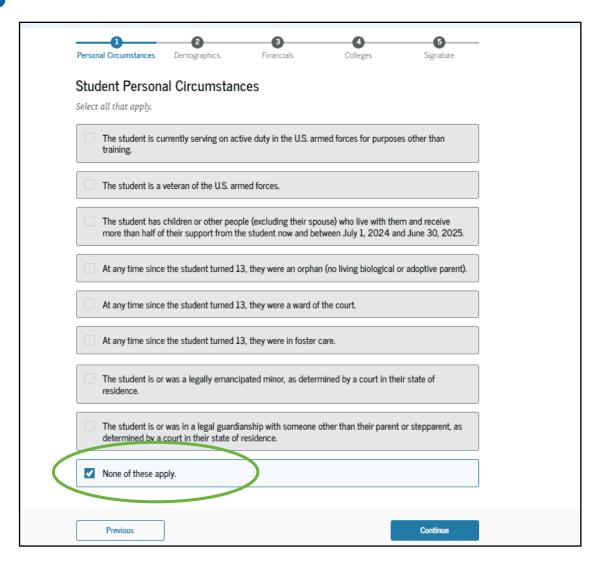
## **Student Plans**

Select the college grade level the student will be in when they begin school in 2024-25.

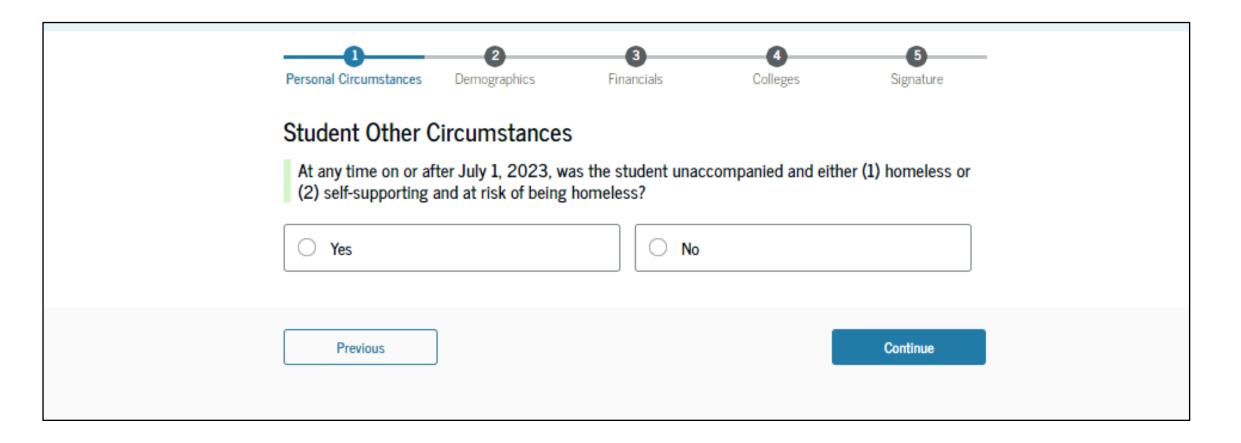


### **Personal Circumstances**

- A series of questions are asked to determine if the student is independent or dependent.
- If the student can say yes, to one of these questions, they are independent and will not provide parental information on the FAFSA.

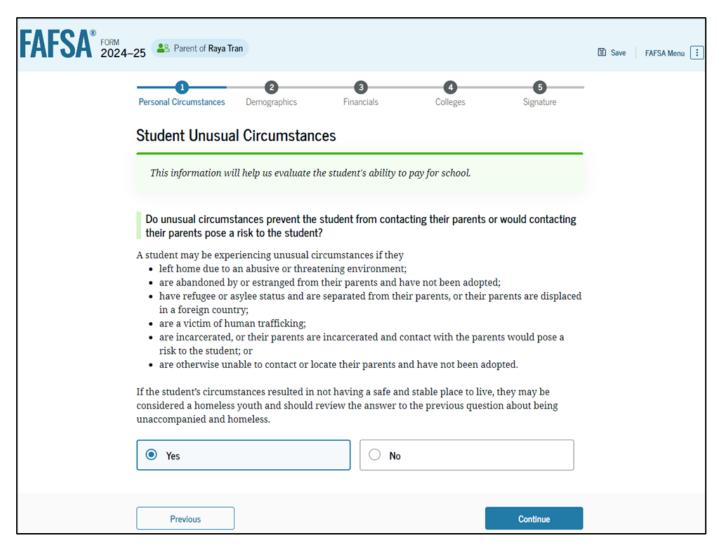


## **Other Circumstances**



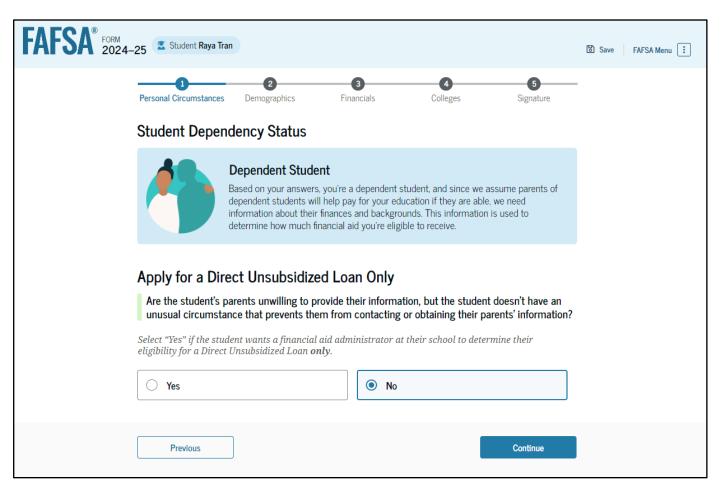
## **Student Unusual Circumstances**

The student is asked if unusual circumstances prevent them from contacting their parent(s) or if contacting their parent(s) pose a risk to the student.

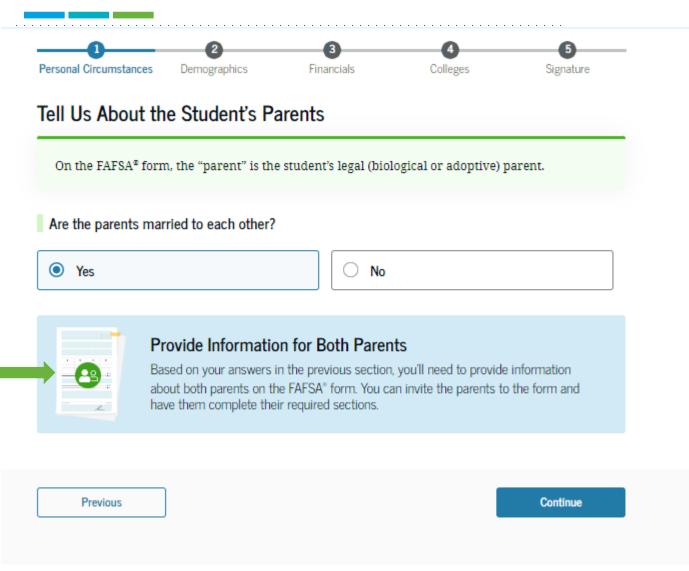


## **Dependent Student**

If the student does not have unusual circumstances, but parents are unwilling to provide their information on the FAFSA, the student can apply for an Unsubsidized Loan only.

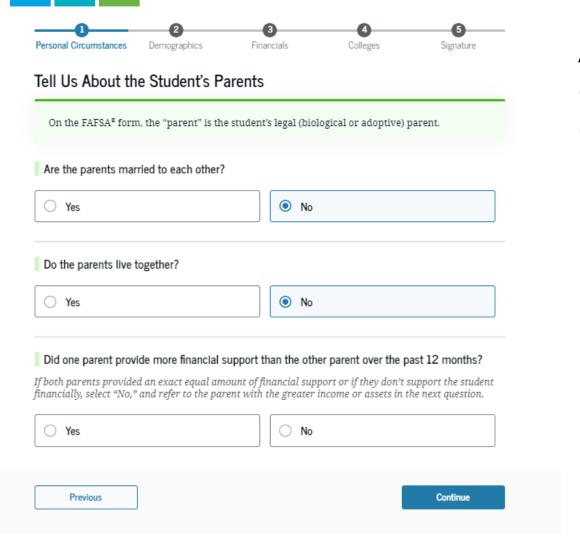


### **Information about Parents**



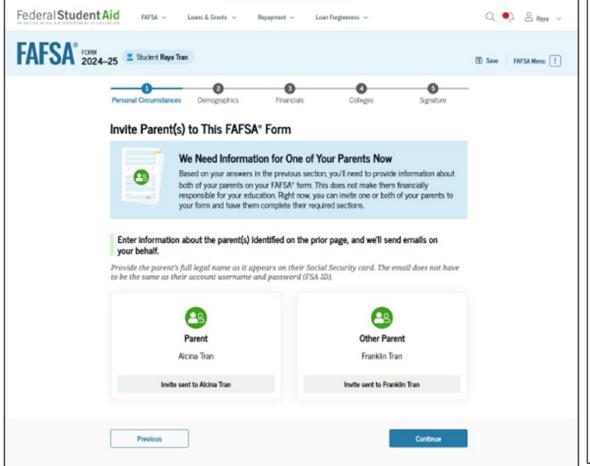
- Parent is the student's legal (biological or adoptive) parent.
- The following questions will determine which parent or parents will need to help complete the FAFSA.

## **Determining Parent(s) on the FAFSA**



A series of questions will help determine which parent(s) needs to complete the FAFSA.

## **Parent Invite**



Enter information about the parent(s) identified on the prior page, and we'll send emails on	
our behalf.	their Social Security card. The email does not have
<u> </u>	<b>3</b>
Parent	Other Parent
First Name	First Name
Last Name	Last Name
Date of Birth  Mouth Day Year  Social Security Number (SSN)	Date of Birth Movem Day Year  Social Security Number (SSN)
Hde ①	H460 ①
My parent doesn't have an SSN. Email Address	My parent doesn't have an SSN. Email Address
Confirm Email Address	Confirm Email Address
Send Invite	Send Invite

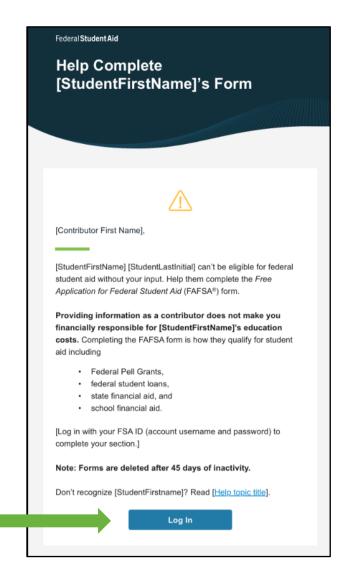
To invite the parent(s) the student must use the parent(s) legal name, Social Security Number, date of birth (what the parent used to created FSA ID) and email address.

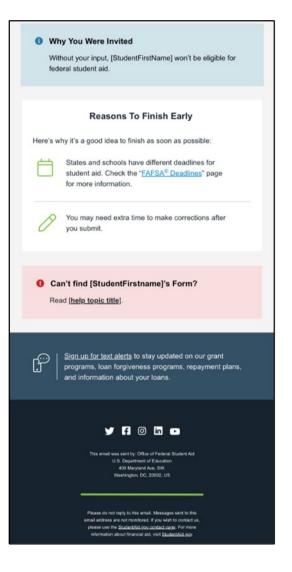
#### **Contributor Invitation Email**

The contributor can wait to receive the email invite to start their section of the FAFSA.

OR

Once invited – the contributor can log in to Studentaid.gov with their FSA ID and start their section of the FAFSA.

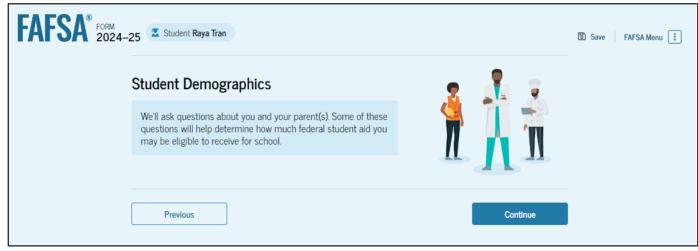




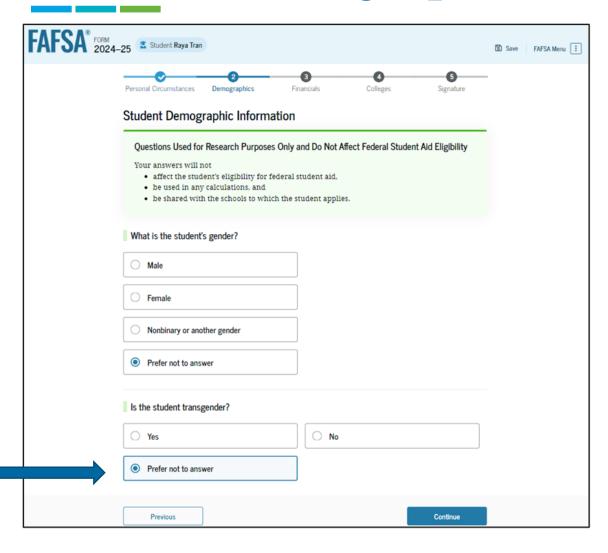
# **Student Demographics Section**

Student will answer the following questions in this section:

- Gender, race, ethnicity
- Citizenship status
- Parent education status
- Parent killed in the line of duty
- Student high school completion status



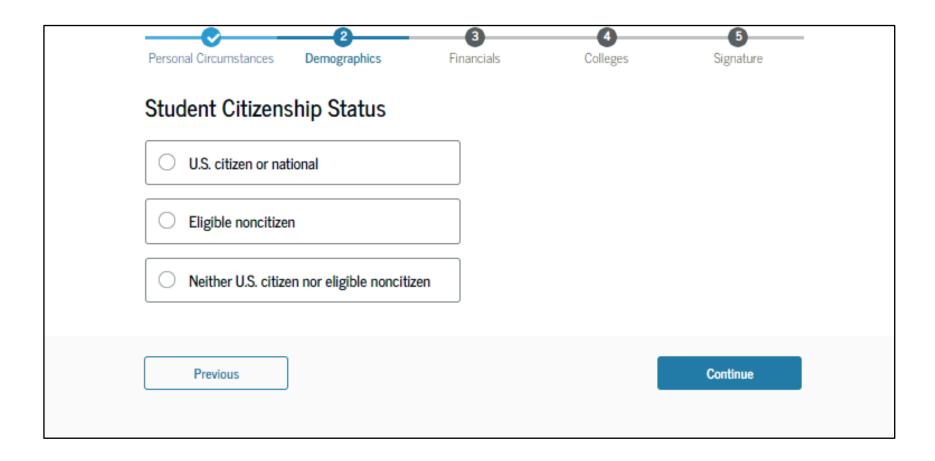
# **Student Demographics Section**



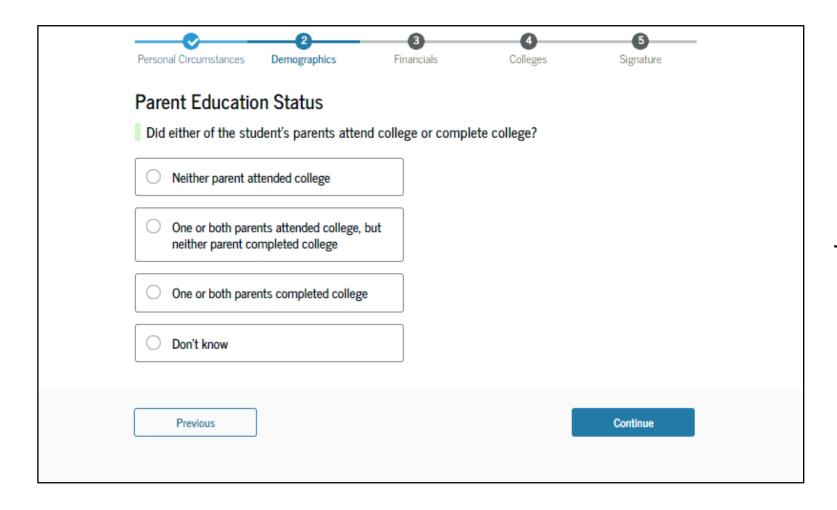
In this section students are asked about their gender, race and ethnicity.

- Student can decline to answer these questions.
- These answers cannot be viewed by contributors.
- This information is not sent to schools listed on the FAFSA.

# **Student Citizenship**

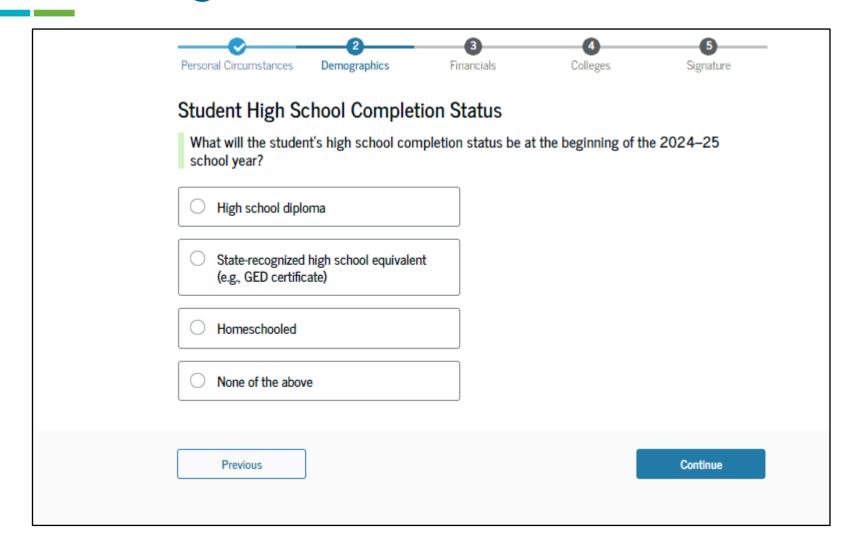


#### **Parental Education Information**

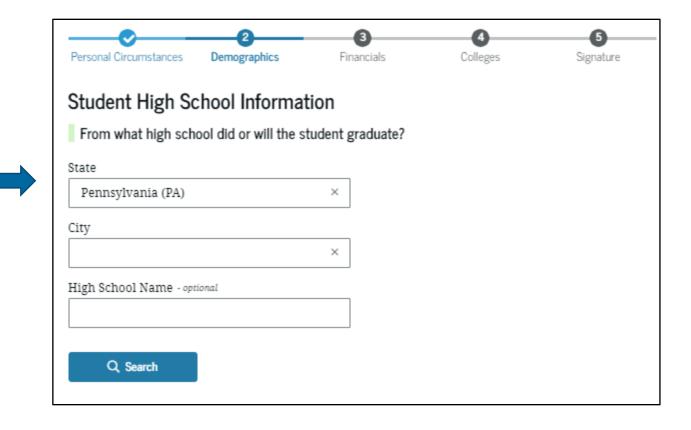


This is information is collected for statistical purposes and has no bearing on eligibility for financial aid.

# **Student High School Status**

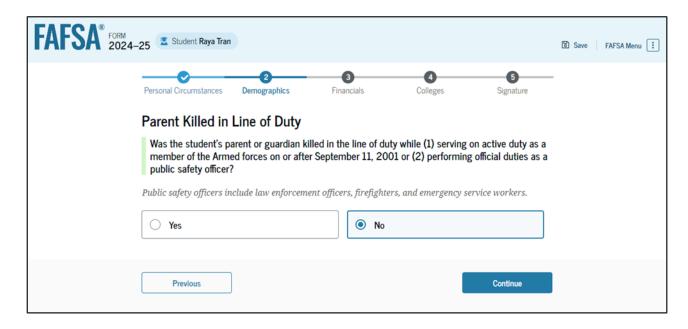


# **Student High School**



Use the search function to find your high school.

# Student's Parent Killed in the Line of Duty



Student will be asked this question if under the age of 33 years old.

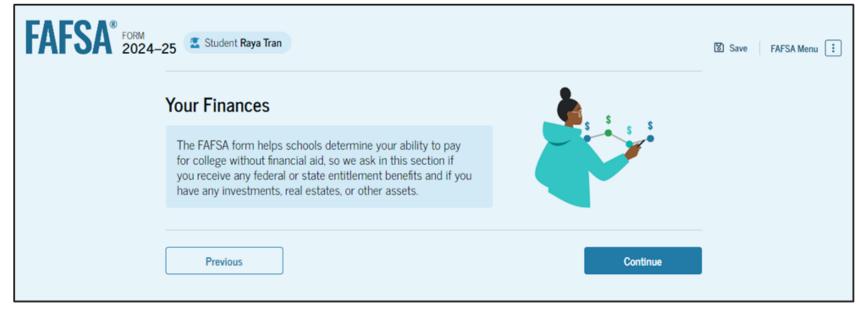
If student answers "Yes", the student will need to provide documentation to the Financial Aid Office at the school.

If documented, student is eligible for the Maximum Federal Pell Grant.

#### **Student Financial Section**

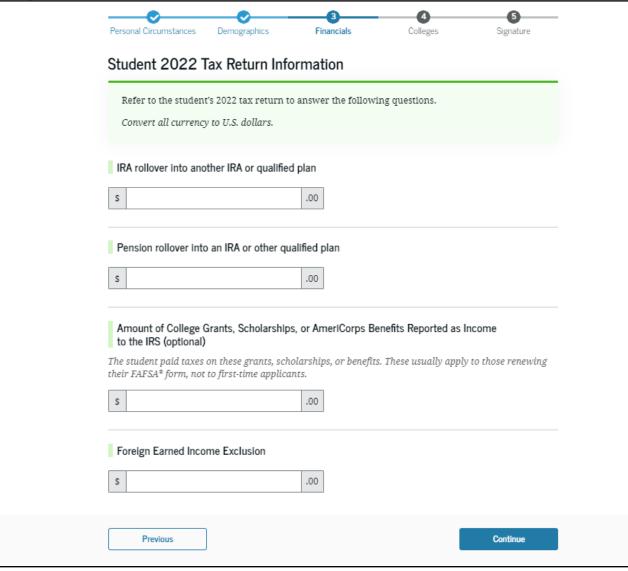
In this section student will answer income and assets

questions.



#### **Student Financial Section**

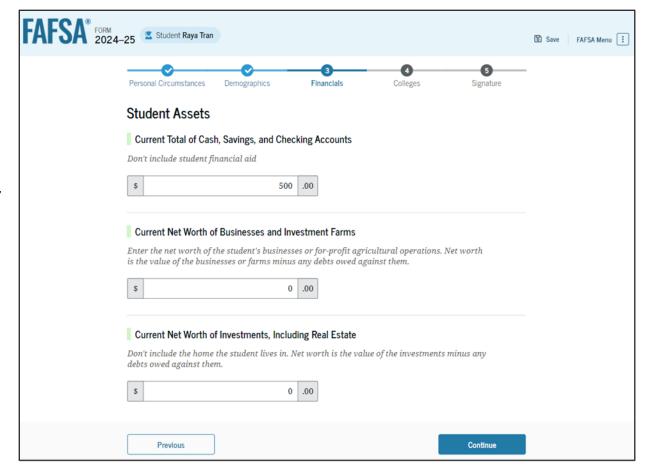
- There are a few income questions, that are not pulled from the tax return that the student will need to answer.
- Earned Income Credit can be found on line 27 of the 2022 1040.
- Taxable Grants, Scholarships, and Americorps amounts can be found on a W-2 or line 8 of Schedule 1.
- Foreign Earned Income Exclusion can be found on Schedule 1 – line 8d.



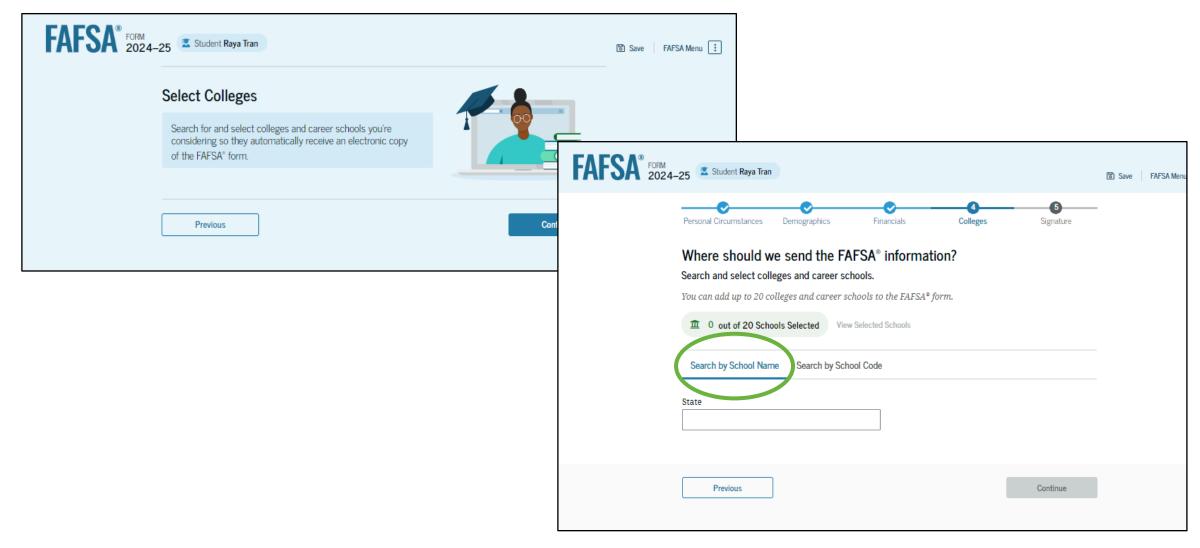
#### **Student Assets**

Report the current value as of the date the FAFSA is completed.

- Value of cash, savings and checking accounts
- Value of investments stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, other real estate investment, bitcoin,
- Current net worth of business
- Current net worth of an investment Farm (for-profit agricultural operations)

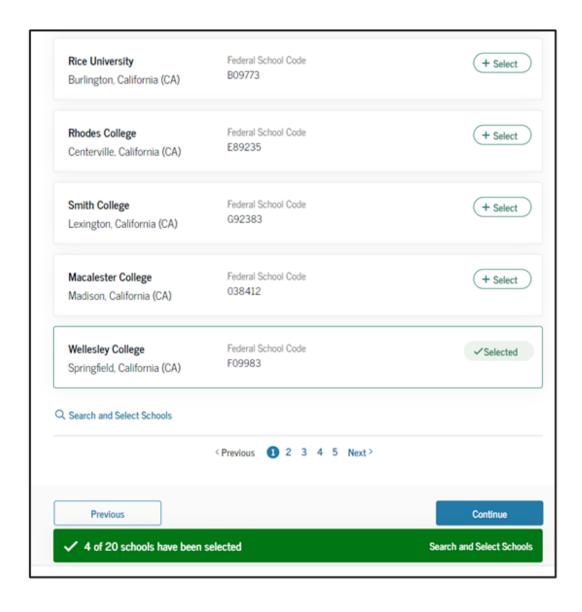


# **College and Career Schools**



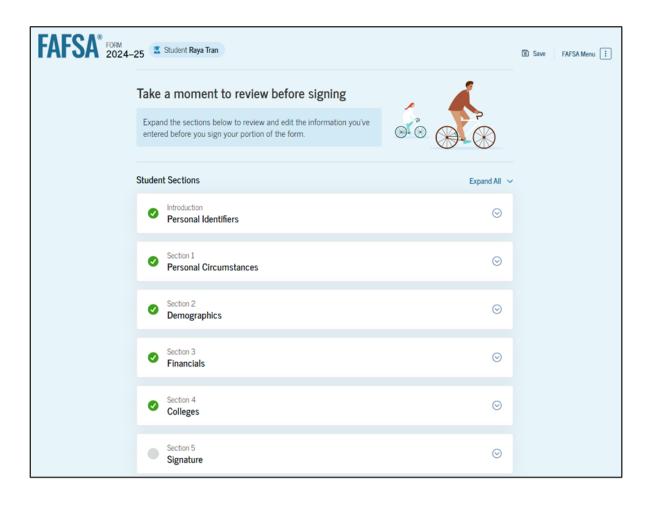
# **Select Colleges Section**

- Student can select up to 20 colleges and/or career schools to have their FAFSA information sent to.
  - Does not have to applied to any of these schools to list them.
  - Does not have to be admitted to any schools to list them.
  - Can add additional schools after submitted.



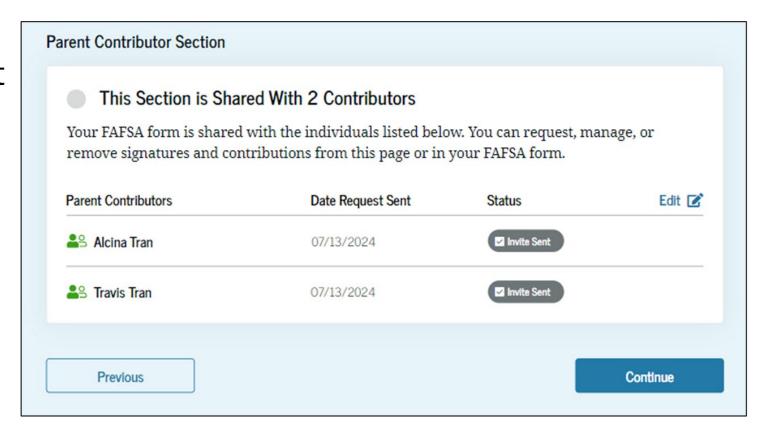
# **Student Review Page**

- The student can view all their responses by selecting "Expand All" or expand each section individually.
- To edit a response, the student can select the question's hyperlink and will be taken to the corresponding page.

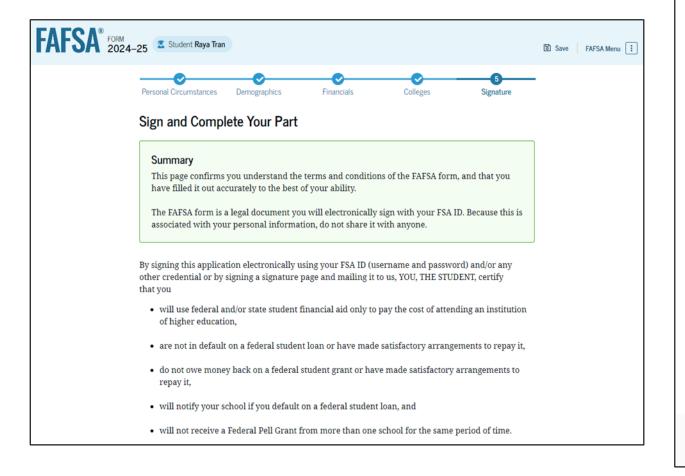


# **Student Review Page**

Since the student invited their parent(s) into the form, they see the parent contributor section and the status of their parent's invite.



# **Student Signature**



By signing this application electronically using your username and password, and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, you certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked to provide

- · information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form, and
- U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

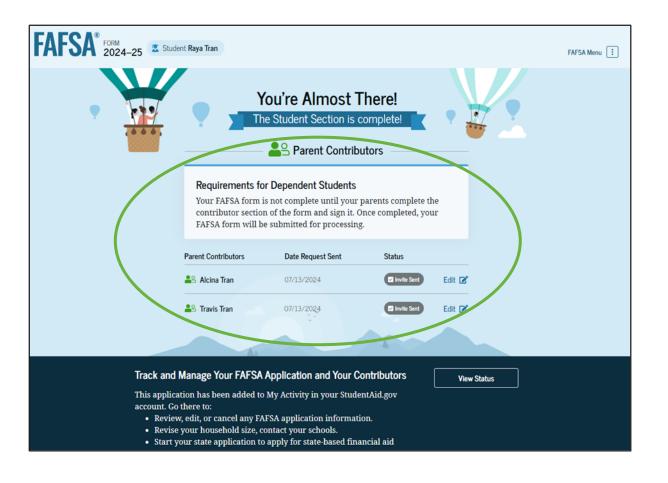
You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies.

If you sign this application or any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

# Sign Your FAFSA Form ✓ I, Raya Tran, agree to the terms outlined above Cancel Submit

# **Student Section Complete**

This page displays information for the student about next steps, including tracking their FAFSA® form. The student is reminded that their form is not completed and can't be submitted until the parent completes the contributor section of the form and signs it.



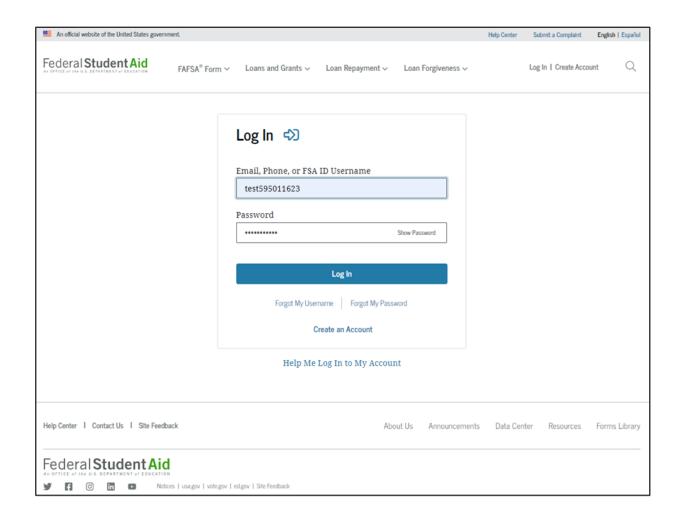
# How does a parent complete the FAFSA?

# Parent Log in

Parent can log in from:

- Email invite
- Studentaid.gov

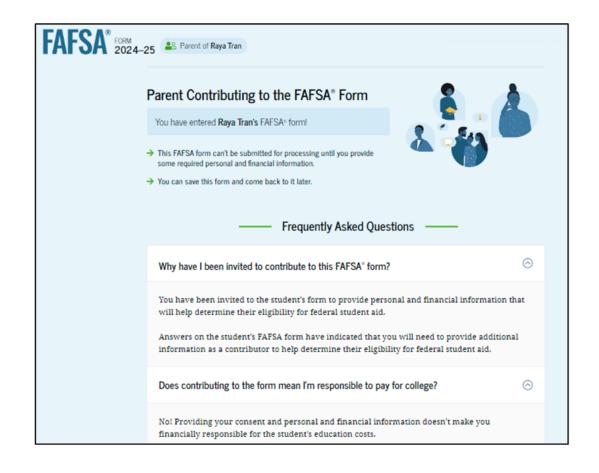
If the parent doesn't have an FSA ID created, they can select to create an account. However, they should create their FSA ID **4 days** in advance of completing this section.

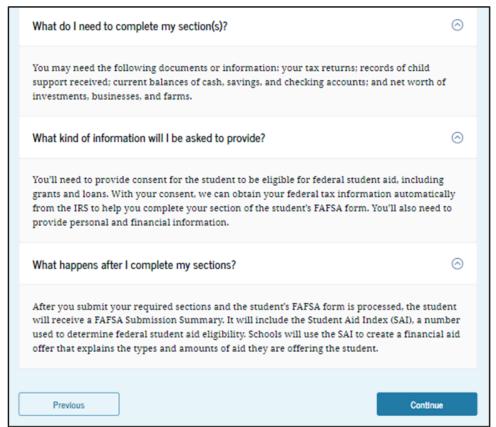


# Parent Status Center – My Activity Page

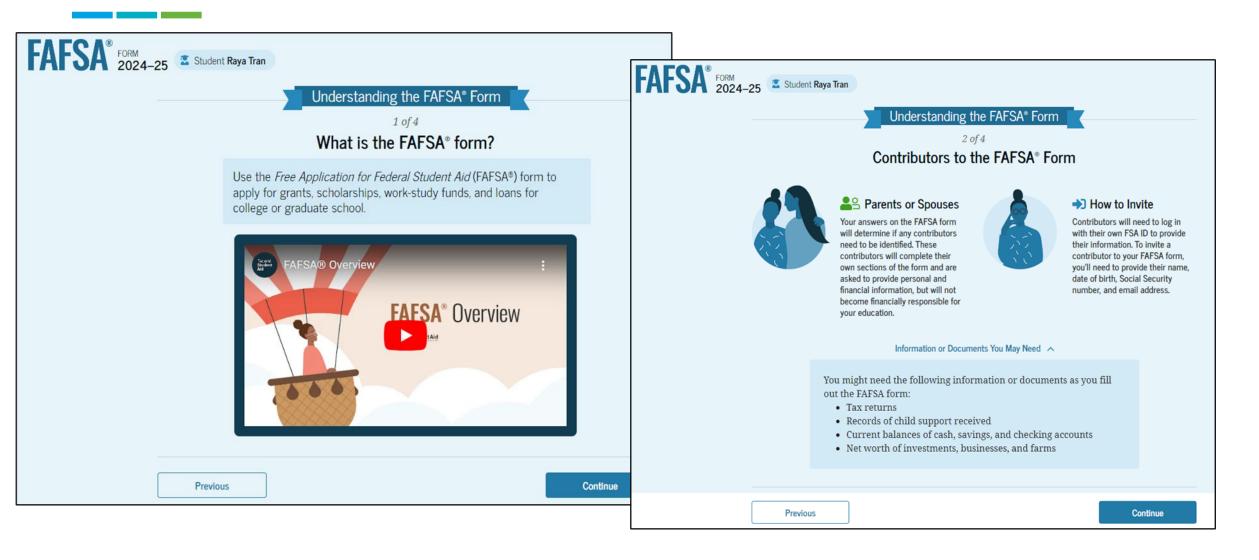
Parent is taken to "My Activity My Activity Page" and will see an invite to Raya Tran Wants Your Help on a FAFSA® Form be a contributor on student's Raya Tran has identified you as a parent on their Free FAFSA. Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form. Parents are required to provide their financial and demographic information on the student's FAFSA form. This does not make you financially responsible for Raya's educational costs or any federal student loans they decide to Visit the 2024-25 FAFSA Help Center Accept Invitation Decline Invitation By accepting this invitation, you agree to share your personal and contact information from your StudentAid.gov account on the student's FAFSA form. Once you accept, your information will be linked to this form.

# Parent Contributing to the FAFSA Form

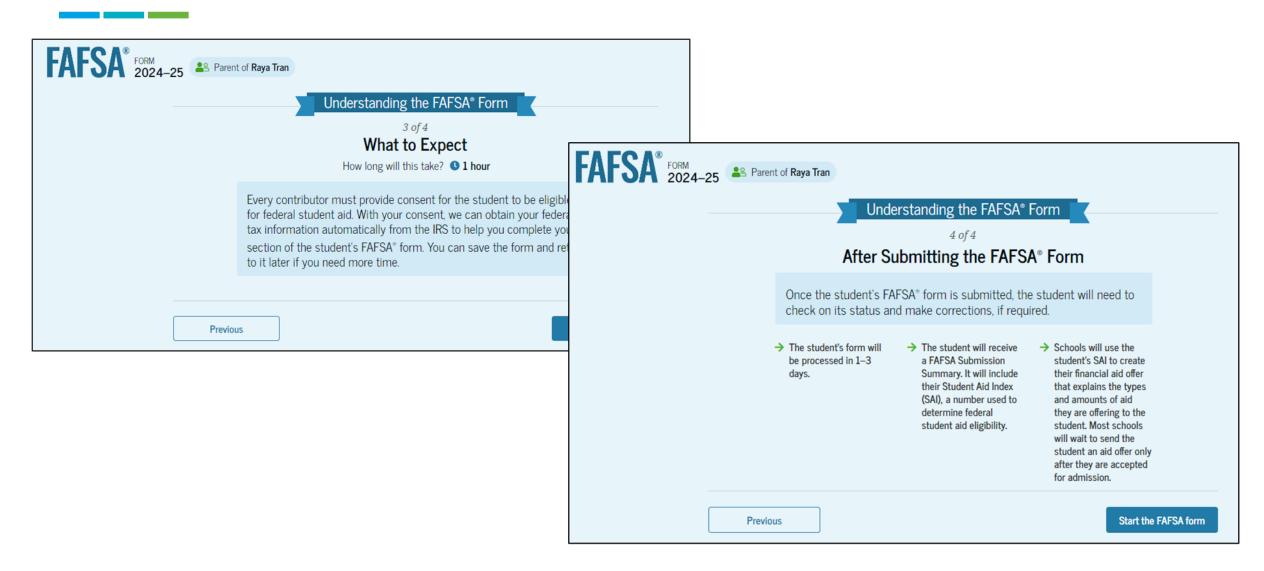




# Parent Onboarding Slides - 1 & 2

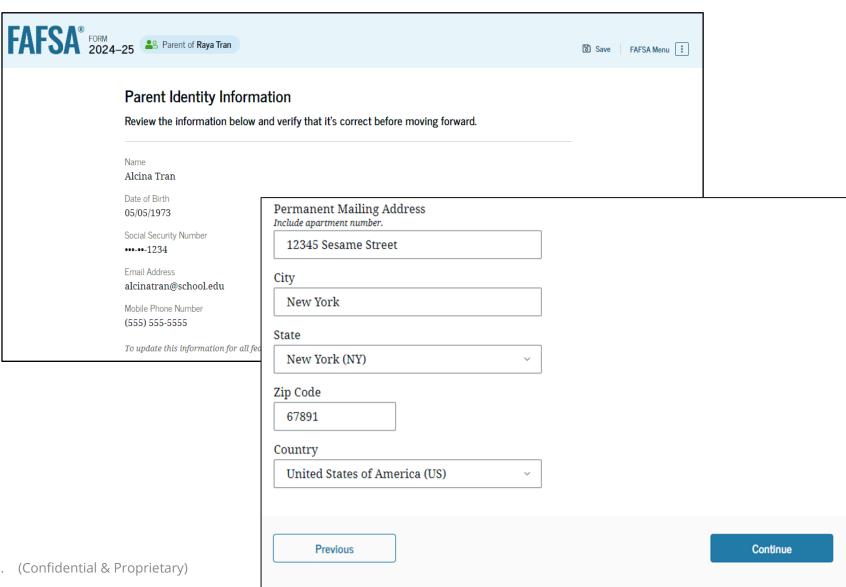


# Parent Onboarding Slides - 3 & 4



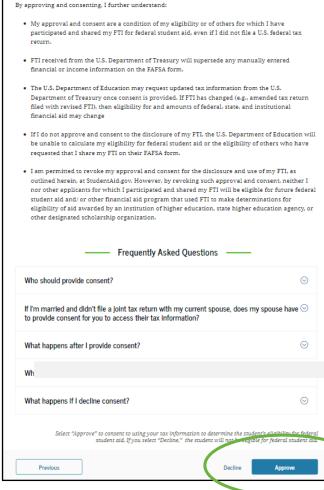
# **Parent Identity Information**

- To update any of the personal information, the parent must access their Account Settings on StudentAid.gov.
- Parent can update mailing address on this page.



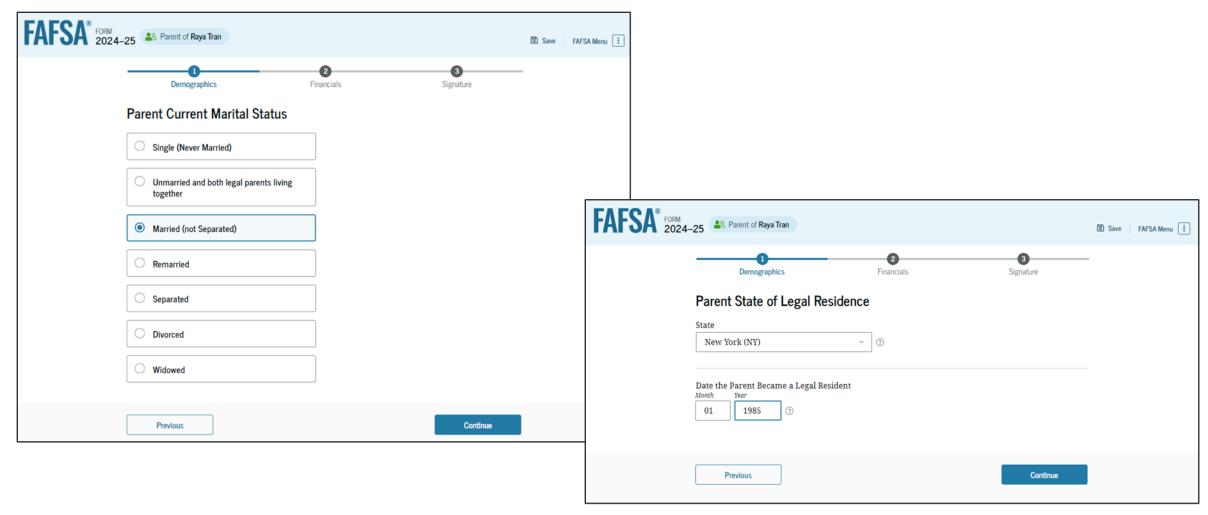
# **Parent Provides Consent and Approval**



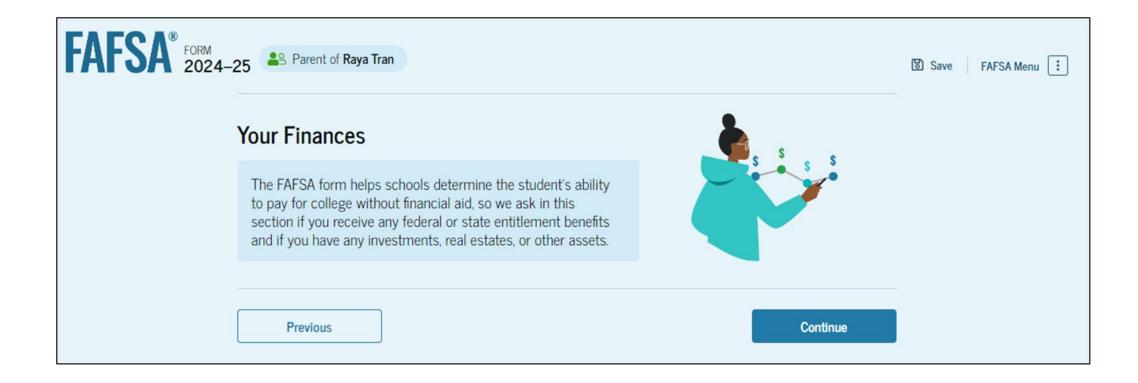


- If the parent declines consent and approval, the parent must manually enter income information and the student will not be eligible for federal student aid.
- Declining consent and approval prevents the request of information from the IRS.

# **Parent Demographics**

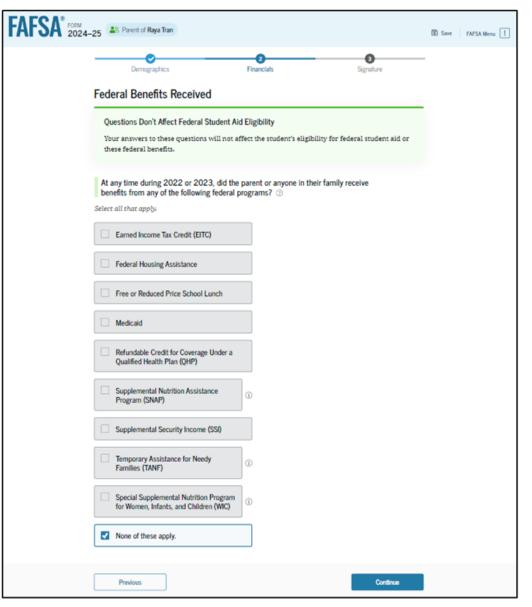


#### **Parent Financials**



# **Student's Parent Federal Benefits Received**

Asks if in 2022 or 2023 the dependent student's parents or anyone in their family received means-tested benefits.



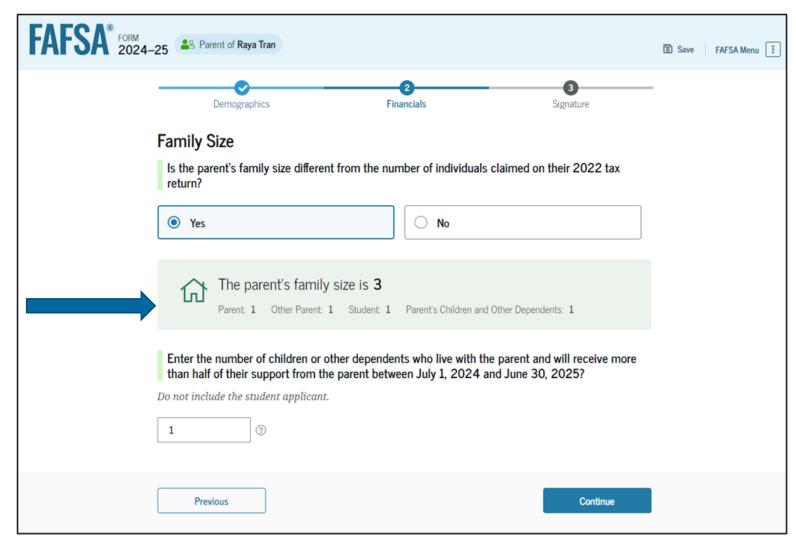
# **Parent Family Size**

#### Family Size

Is the parent's family size different from the number of individuals claimed on their 2022 tax return?

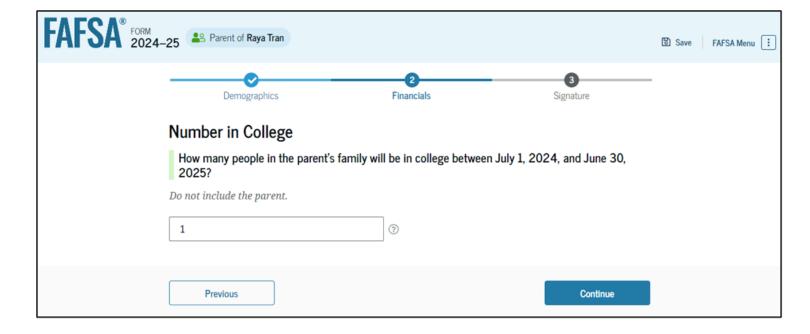
Family size includes: The parent (and their spouse), The student, other people, if they now live with the parent and the parent will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. This includes dependent children who meet these criteria, even if they live apart because of college enrollment.





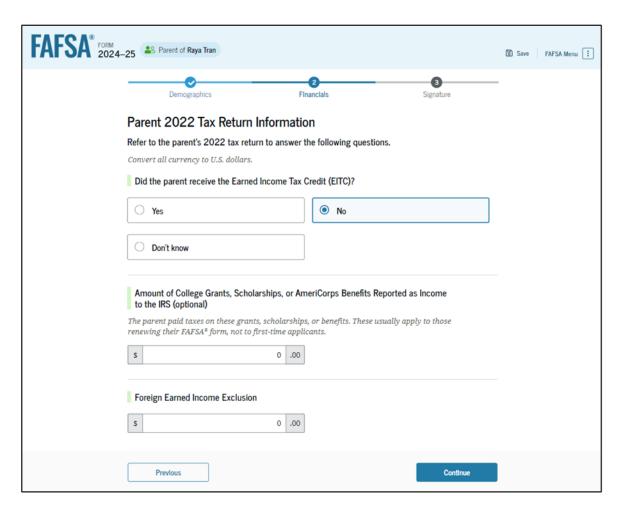
# Parent Number in College

- Asks the parent how many people in the family will be in college between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.
- Although this question is asked on the FAFSA, it is no longer used in the formula to determine a student's eligibility for financial aid.

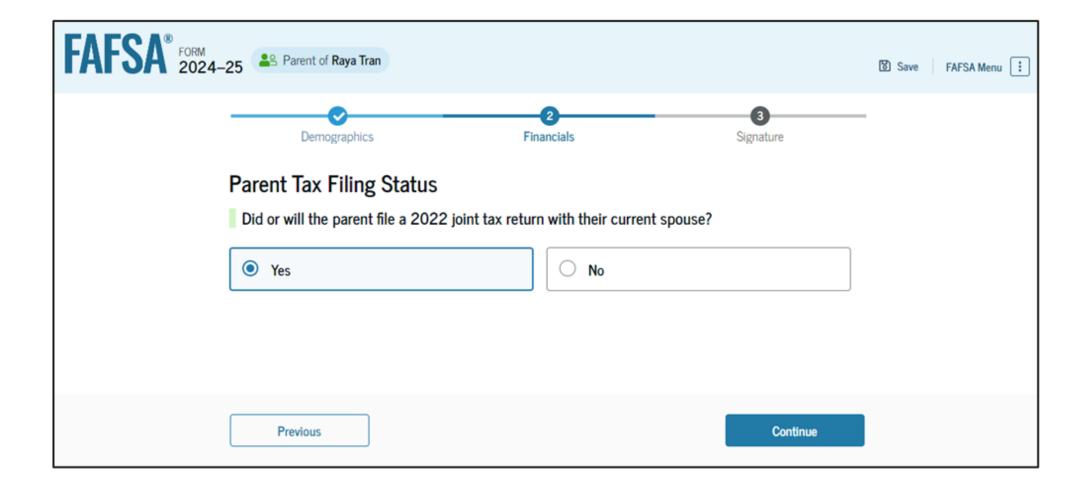


#### **Parent Tax Return Information**

- If information is transferred from the IRS, parent nor the student will be able to see it.
- Parent asked to answer tax questions not pulled from IRS.
- Earned Income Credit can be found on line 27 of the 2022 1040.
- Taxable Grants, Scholarships, and Americorps amounts can be found on a W-2 or line 8 of Schedule 1.
- Foreign Earned Income Exclusion can be found on Schedule 1 – line 8d.



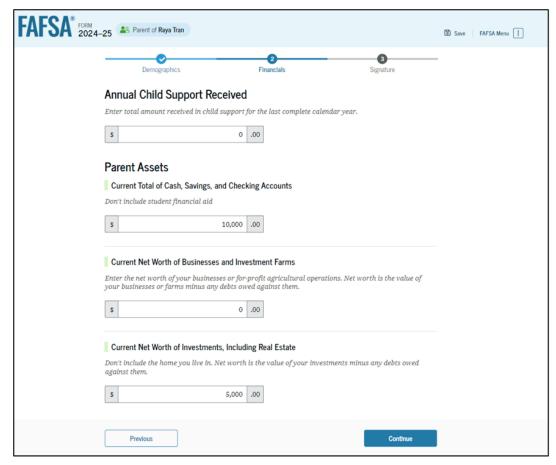
# **Parent Tax Filing Status**



#### **Parent Assets**

Report the current value as of the date the FAFSA is completed

- Child support received for most complete calendar year.
- Value of cash, savings and checking accounts.
- Value of investments stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, other real estate investment, bitcoin, for dependent students, education savings accounts will only be counted as a parental asset if the account is designated for the student completing the FAFSA.
- Current net worth of business
- Current net worth of an investment farm (forprofit agricultural operations)



# What is NOT an asset

Not reported on FAFSA as an asset:

- Value of primary home
- Value of qualified retirement accounts
- Value of life insurance policies
- Value of personal property
- Value of 529 or Educational Savings accounts for any other family members (excluding applicant)

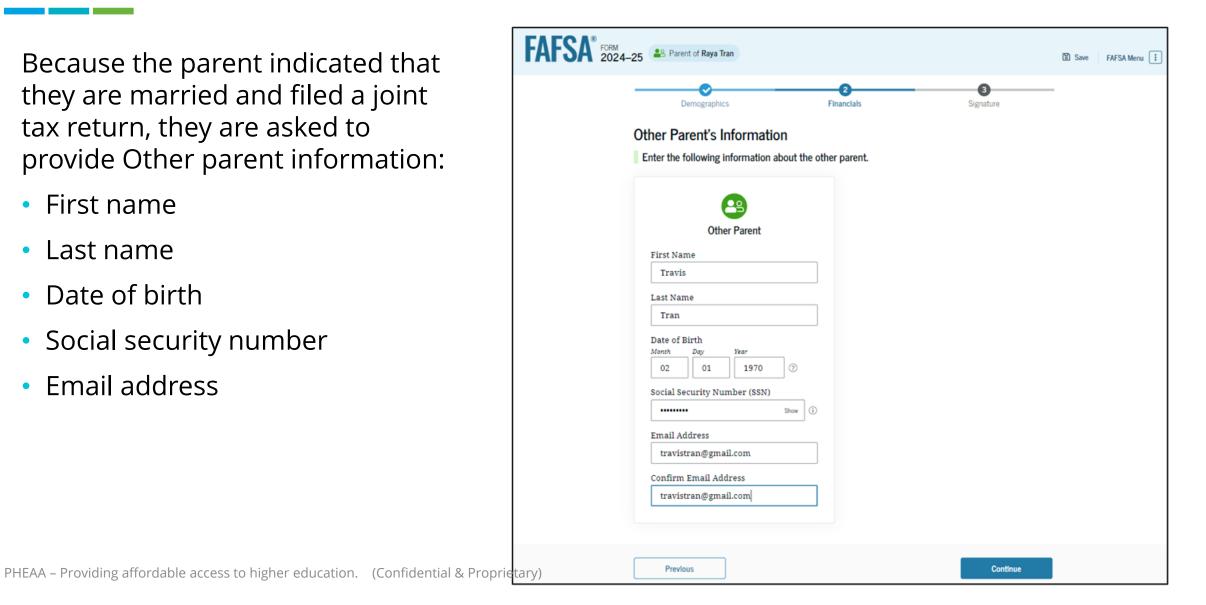
# **Exempt from Reporting assets**

- Applicant qualifies for a maximum Pell Grant
- An applicant who received a benefit under a federal means-tested benefit program in the prior two completed calendar years (i.e., 2022 or 2023 for the 2024-25 award year) or whose parent or spouse received such a benefit during the same period.
- A dependent applicant whose parents (1) have a total AGI of less than \$60,000; (2) do not file a Schedule A, B, D, E, F, or H (or equivalent successor schedules) on their federal tax return; and (3) either do not file a Schedule C or file that form with a net business gain or loss of \$10,000 or less

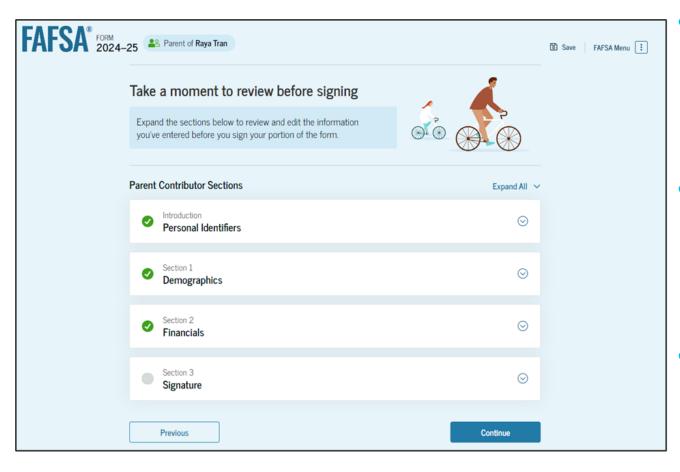
### Other Parent Information

Because the parent indicated that they are married and filed a joint tax return, they are asked to provide Other parent information:

- First name
- Last name
- Date of birth
- Social security number
- Fmail address



# **Parent Review Page**



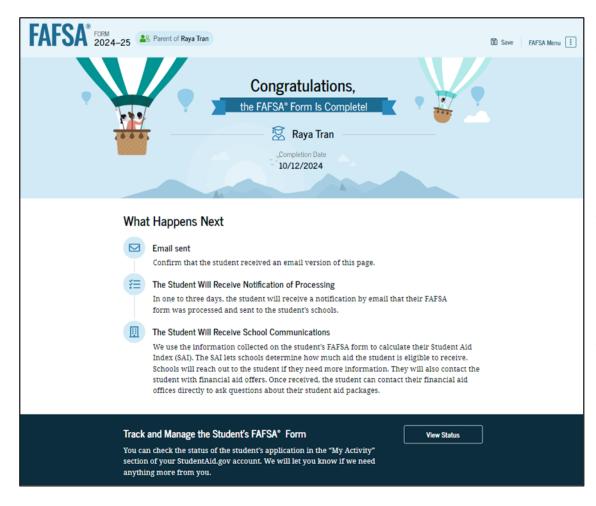
- The parent can only view responses within the parent section of the student's FAFSA form.
- The parent can view all their responses by selecting "Expand All" or expand each section individually.
- To edit a response, the parent can select the question's hyperlink to be taken to the corresponding page.

# **Parent Signature**



- The parent acknowledges the terms and conditions of the FAFSA form and signs their section.
- Since all required student and parent sections are complete, the parent can both sign and submit the student's FAFSA form.

# **Parent Abbreviated Confirmation Page**



- Upon submitting the student's FAFSA form, the parent is presented an abbreviated confirmation page.
- This page displays information about tracking the student's FAFSA form and next steps.
- The student will receive an email with the full, detailed confirmation page.

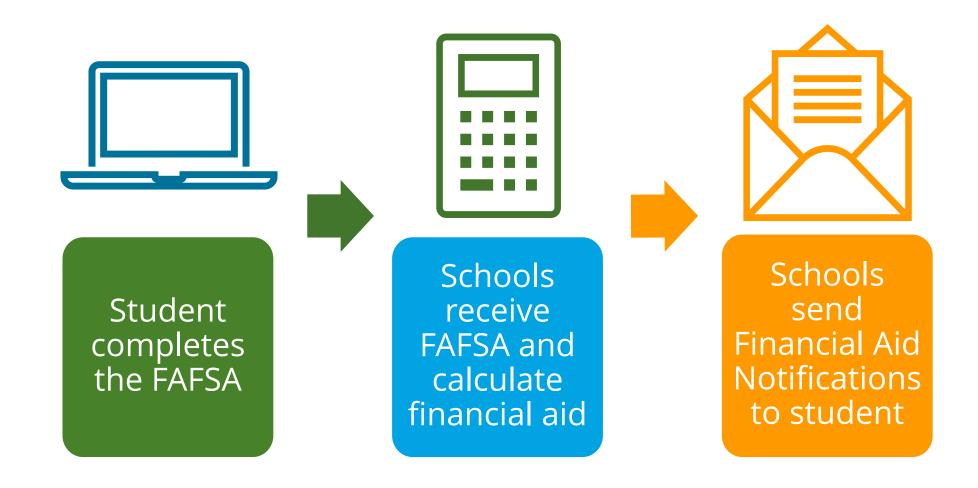
# **Student Confirmation Page**

• This page displays information for the student about their completion date, data release number, and next steps, including tracking their FAFSA® form.

 The student also sees an estimation for their Student Aid Index and if eligible, the Federal Pell Grant amount.



# What happens after I file the FAFSA?



# **Additional Webinar Opportunity**

**Understanding and Comparing Financial Aid Offers** 

March 20, 2024 6 – 7 PM

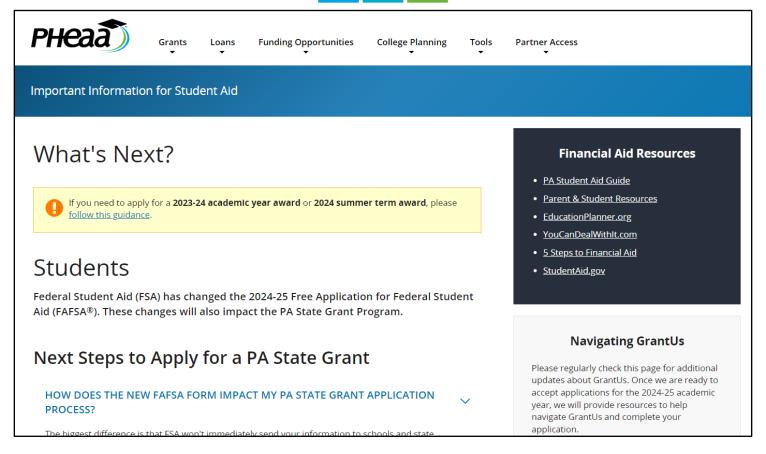




Register and find more webinars at <a href="mailto:pheaa.org/virtual">pheaa.org/virtual</a>

# How do I apply for a Pennsylvania State Grant?

#### **PA State Grant Form**



# PHEAA.org/StudentAid

### **Important Resources**



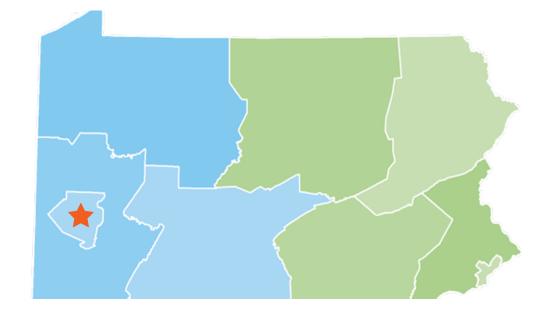
- Check out <u>Federal Student Aid YouTube</u> <u>videos</u> for help with understanding the FAFSA.
- View more information about financial aid at pheaa.org/resourcesstudents
- Learn more about the FAFSA at <u>https://studentaid.gov/help-center</u> or contact FSA for assistance <u>https://studentaid.gov/help-center/contact</u>

#### Helpful sites to learn about the cost:

- MySmartBorrowing.org
- EducationPlanner.org
- CollegeCost.ed.gov

#### **Your Presenter**





# **Amy Sawdey**

PHEAA

Higher Education Access Partner

Amy.Sawdey@pheaa.org

