

# Eligibility for Federal Student Aid

Most students are eligible to receive financial aid from the federal government to help pay for college or career school. Your age, race, or field of study won't affect your eligibility for federal student aid. While your income is taken into consideration, it doesn't automatically prevent you from getting federal student aid.

To receive federal student aid, you'll need to...



## 1. Qualify

to obtain a college or career school education, either by having a high school diploma or equivalent, or by completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law.

## 2. Be enrolled

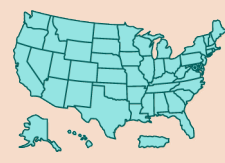
or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program.



## 3. Have a valid Social Security number

unless you are from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau.

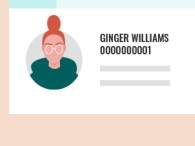
In addition, you must...



### Be a U.S. CITIZEN or U.S. NATIONAL

You're a U.S. citizen if you were born in the United States or certain U.S. territories, if you were born abroad to parents who are U.S. citizens, or if you have obtained citizenship status through naturalization. If you were born in American Samoa or Swains Island, then you're a U.S. national.

OR



### Have a GREEN CARD

You're eligible if you have a Form I-551, I-151, or I-551C, also known as a green card, showing you're a U.S. permanent resident.

OR



### Have an ARRIVAL-DEPARTURE RECORD

Your Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services must show one of the following:

- Refugee
- Asylum Granted
- Cuban-Haitian Entrant (Status Pending)
- Conditional Entrant (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Parolee

OR



### Have BATTERED IMMIGRANT STATUS

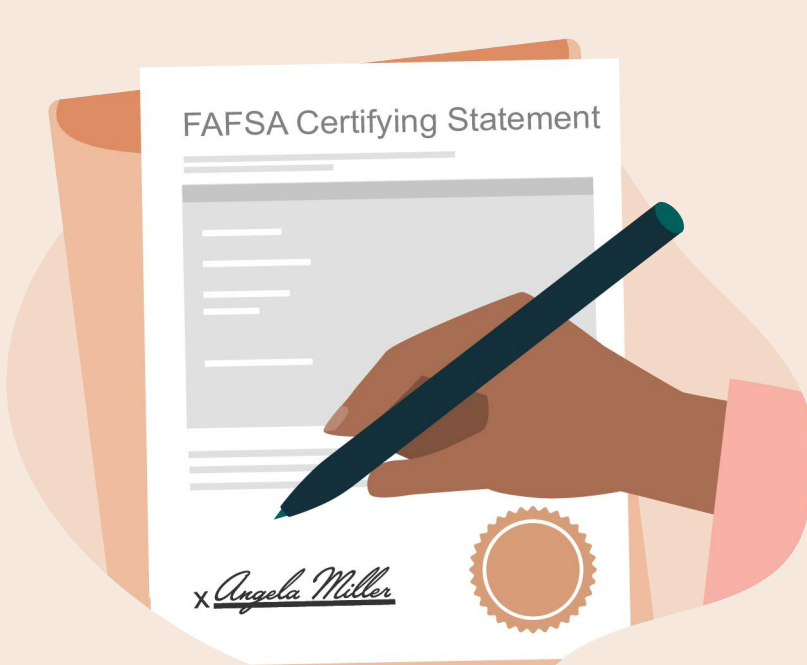
You're designated as a "battered immigrant-qualified alien" if you are a victim of abuse by your citizen or permanent resident spouse, or you're the child of a person designated as such under the *Violence Against Women Act*.

OR



### Have a T-VISA

You're eligible if you have a T-visa or a parent with a T-1 visa.



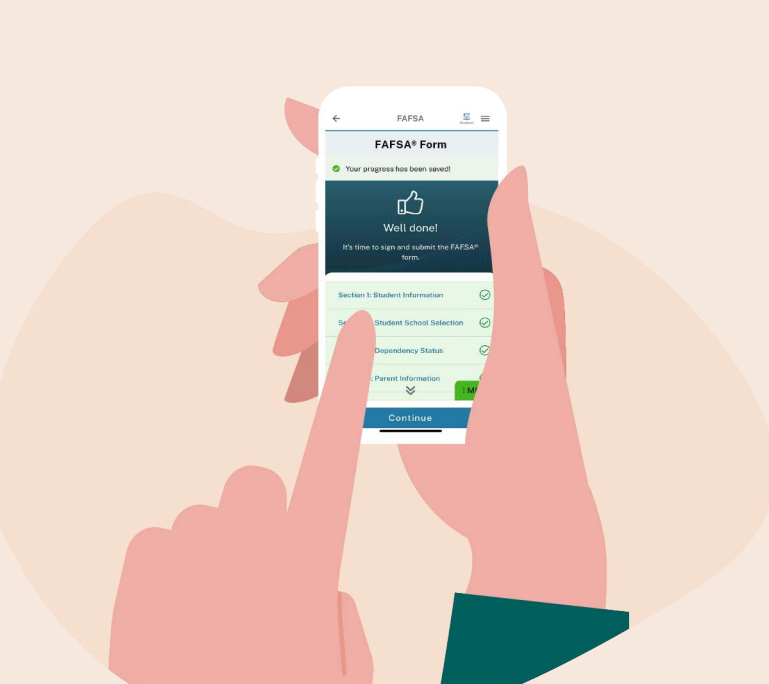
## 4. Sign

certifying statements on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form stating that

- you're not in default on a federal student loan and do not owe a refund on a federal grant and
- you will use federal student aid only for educational purposes.

## 5. Maintain

satisfactory academic progress in college or career school.



Start filling out the FAFSA® form at **fafsa.gov**.

The U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid provides more than \$111 billion in grants, loans, and work-study funds each year to help pay for college or career school. Visit [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) today to learn how to pay for college or career school.

Federal Student Aid  
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION