



SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

FINANCIAL AID, VETERAN SERVICES & STUDENT
EMPLOYMENT

AGENDA

- 1 WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?
- 2 THE FSA ID
- 3 FILING THE FAFSA
- 4 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
- 5 QUESTIONS

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

MONEY TO COVER EDUCATIONAL COSTS:

- TUITION**
- FEES**
- BOOKS**
- HOUSING & FOOD**
- OTHER LIVING
EXPENSES**

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

1

GRANTS

2

LOANS

3

SCHOLAR-
SHIPS

4

WORK
STUDY

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

PELL GRANT, DIRECT SUBSIDIZED, UNSUBSIDIZED & PARENT PLUS LOANS, FEDERAL WORK STUDY. AVAILABLE TO ALL US CITIZENS AND ELIGIBLE NON-CITIZENS WHO FILE A FAFSA

STATE STUDENT AID

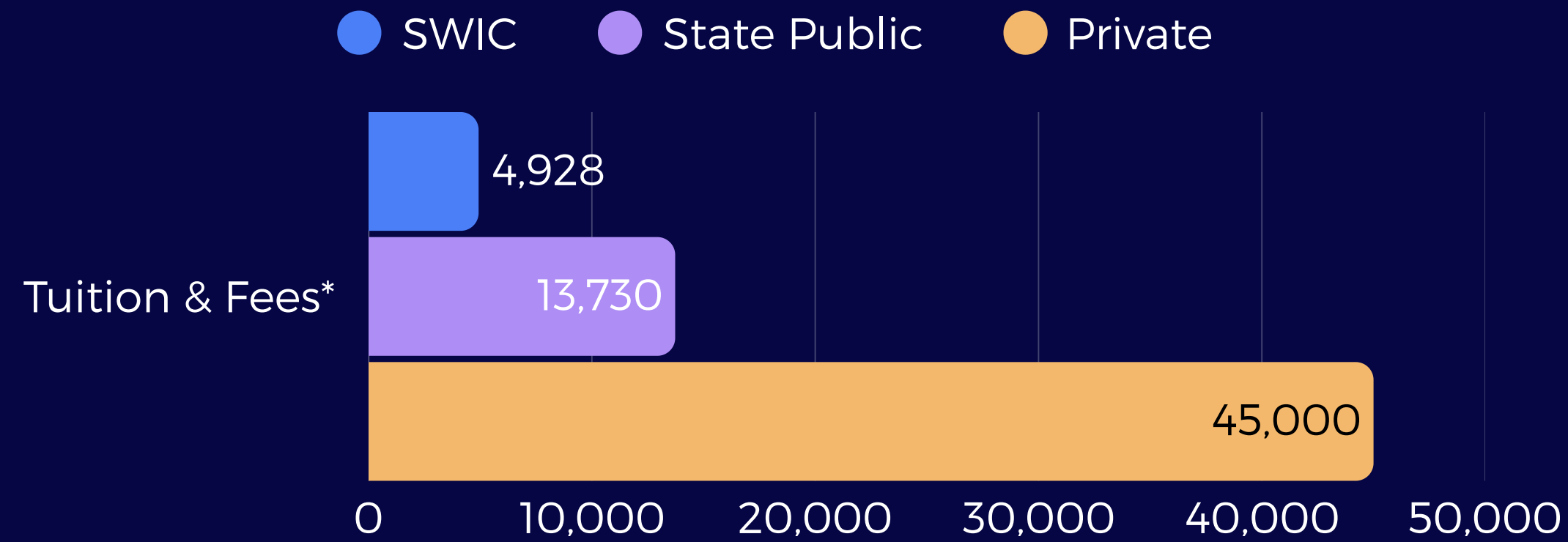
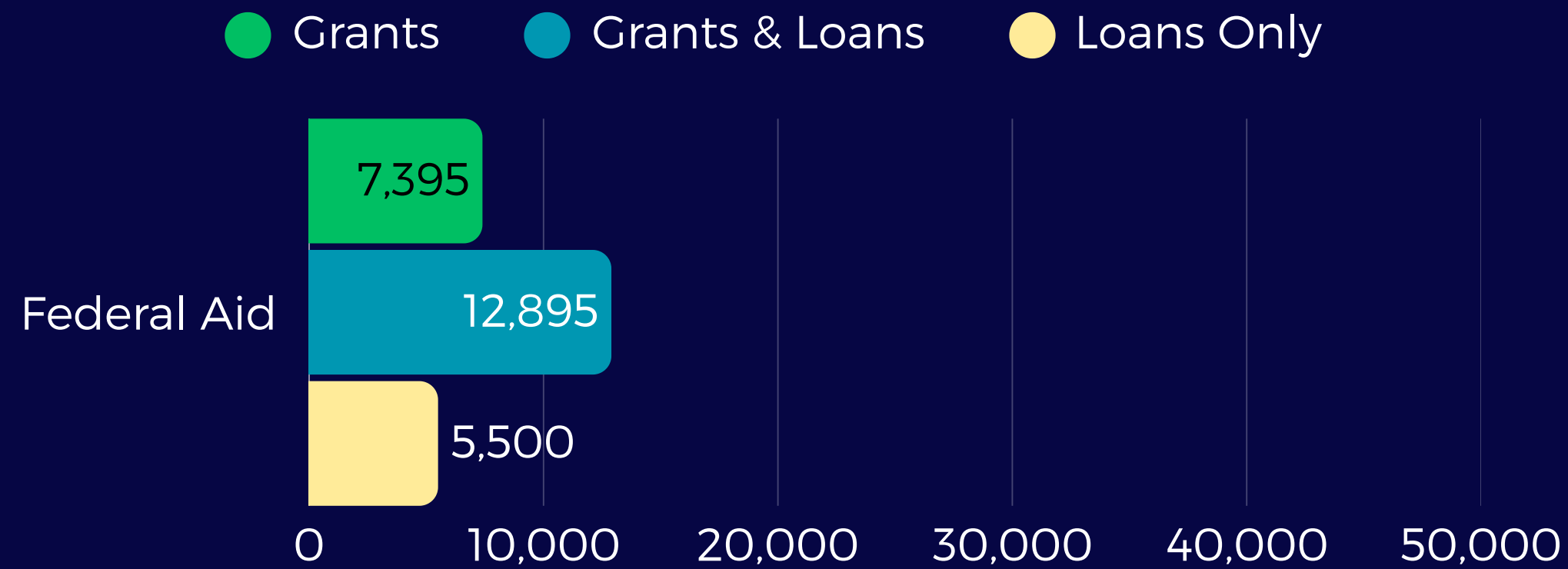
MAP GRANT AND OTHER FUNDING AVAILABLE TO ILLINOIS RESIDENTS. VISIT ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION AT ISAC.ORG FOR MORE INFO

INSTITUTIONAL AID

FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM THE COLLEGE TO FINANCE THE TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE; USUALLY SCHOLARSHIPS RELATED TO MERIT OR SPECIAL INTEREST

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS WITH FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS SUCH AS LOCAL OR CORPORATE SCHOLARSHIPS



*Note: Actual costs will vary by student and institution. Housing and meals adds approximately \$11,000 to 15,000 to university costs.

HOW DO I APPLY?

FILE YOUR FAFSA

COMPLETE INSTITUTIONAL APPS

SEEK PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS



GETTING STARTED WITH FAFSA

TIMELINE FOR FILING FAFSA



Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ▾ Grants and Loans ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾

🔍 Log In | Create Account

Log In

Email, Phone, or Username

[Forgot email, phone, or username?](#)

Continue

Create an Account

STUDENTAID.GOV

- CREATE FSA ID
- COMPLETE THE FAFSA
- MAKE FAFSA CORRECTIONS
- COMPLETE LOAN ENTRANCE COUNSELING
- SIGN MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE
- CHECK STATUS OF LOANS & LOAN BALANCES

Federal Student Aid
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FAFSA® Form ▾ Grants and Loans ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾

🔍 Log In | Create Account

Log In

← 599887938test@testcod.edu

Password

[Forgot password?](#)

Log In

Create an Account

CREATING AN FSA ID



WHO NEEDS ONE?

- STUDENT
- FAFSA CONTRIBUTORS

WHAT YOU NEED:

- PERSONAL/MOBILE DEVICE
- PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS
- MEMORABLE USERNAME
- SECURE PASSWORD
- SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER*
- DATE OF BIRTH
- FULL LEGAL NAME
- MAILING ADDRESS
- PHONE NUMBER
- CHALLENGE QUESTIONS
- IDENTITY VERIFICATION

***EFFECTIVE 2024-2025, CONTRIBUTORS WITHOUT AN SSN CAN GET AN FSA ID**

FederalStudentAid

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FAFSA® Form ▾Grants and Loans ▾Loan Repayment ▾Loan Forgiveness ▾

BILL ▾

Get Money To Help Pay for School

Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

Start a 2026–27 FAFSA® Form

Start New Form

Edit a 2026–27 FAFSA® Form

Edit Existing Forms

Accept an Invitation for a 2026–27 FAFSA® Form

Accept an Invitation

FAFSA®

form

Need the 2025–26 FAFSA Form?

Start New Form | Edit Existing Forms or Accept an Invitation

Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live in

Some states and schools use information from the FAFSA® form to determine your eligibility for their grants, scholarships, and loans. Check your state's deadlines here!

Missing a state deadline doesn't impact your eligibility for federal student aid, so fill out your FAFSA form even if your state deadline has passed.

School Year

State of Residence

Find Deadlines

[View All FAFSA Deadlines](#)

Who should complete the FAFSA® form?

Any student, regardless of income, who

30 minutes

How long will it take?

It takes most people 30 minutes to fill out the FAFSA form, including

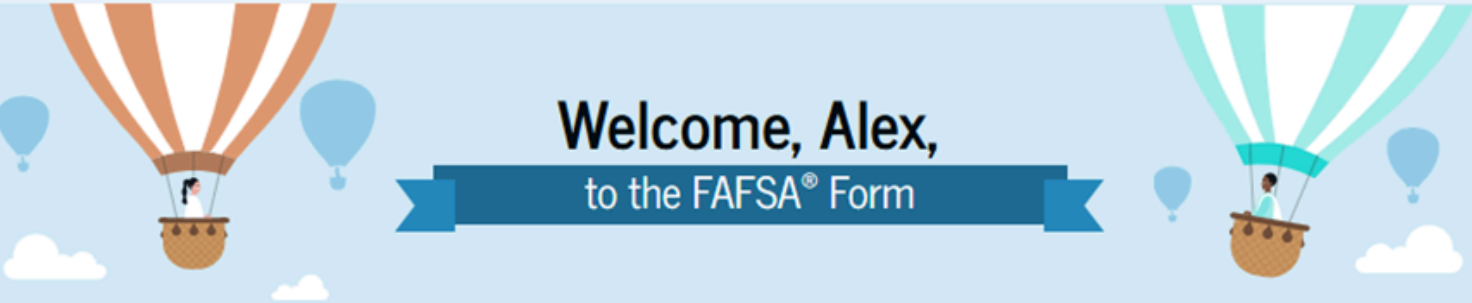
What do I need?

• Verified account username and password (FSA ID)

WHEN YOU ARE
READY TO START...

START WITH STUDENT PORTION...

FAFSA[®] FORM
2026–27



Welcome, Alex,
to the FAFSA[®] Form

I am starting the FAFSA form as a

☐ Student 

☐ Parent 

Did you receive an invitation code?

[Enter Code](#)

Previous

Continue

Provide Consent and Approval or You Won't Be Eligible for Federal Student Aid ⓘ

Summary

Your consent and approval are needed to retrieve and disclose federal tax information. With your consent and approval, we can obtain tax return information automatically from the IRS to help you complete the FAFSA[®] form. If you don't provide consent and approval, you will not be eligible for federal student aid, including grants and loans. You must provide consent and approval even if you didn't file a U.S. federal tax return or any tax return.

- Get your 2024 tax return information for the 2026–27 FAFSA form.
- Federal tax information is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.
- Tax return information is required to complete the FAFSA form.

By accepting below, I consent to the disclosure of information about me, and affirmatively approve of

- the receipt and use of my federal tax information, and
- the redisclosure of my federal tax information by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), as described herein.

By accepting below, I consent to and affirmatively approve of, as applicable, the following:

1. ED may disclose my Social Security number/Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, last name, date of birth, unique identifier, the tax year for which federal tax information is required, and the date and timestamp of my approval for the use of my federal tax information in determining eligibility by ED for which approval is provided to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS). I understand that in response to such a request from ED, the IRS shall then disclose my federal tax information to “authorized persons” (i.e., specifically designated officers and employees of ED and its contractors [as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 6103(l)(13)(E)]) for the purpose of determining eligibility for and the amount of federal student aid under a program authorized under subpart 1 of part A, part C, or part D of *Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965*, as amended, for myself or an applicant for federal student aid who has requested that I share my federal tax information on their *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA[®]) form.

IRS CONSENT

BY PROVIDING CONSENT, THE STUDENT'S FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION IS TRANSFERRED DIRECTLY INTO THE FAFSA FORM FROM THE IRS TO HELP COMPLETE THE STUDENT FINANCIALS SECTION.

IRS CONSENT IS REQUIRED TO BE TITLE IV ELIGIBLE

FAFSA® FORM 2026–27 Student Alex Tran Save FAFSA Menu

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Contributor Invite 6 Signature

Student College or Career School Plans

When the student begins the 2026–27 school year, what will their college grade level be? ⓘ

☒ First year (freshman)

☐ Second year (sophomore)

☐ Other undergraduate (junior and beyond)

☐ Master's, doctorate, or graduate certificate program (such as M.A., MBA, M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)

When the student begins the 2026–27 school year, will they already have their first bachelor's degree? ⓘ

☐ Yes ☒ No

Previous Continue

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- MARITAL STATUS
- COLLEGE OR CAREER SCHOOL PLANS
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION STATUS
- FIRST GENERATION

Student Personal Circumstances

Select all that apply.

- ☐ The student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training. ⓘ
- ☐ The student is a veteran of the U.S. armed forces. ⓘ
- ☐ The student has children or other people (excluding their spouse) who live with them and receive more than half of their support from the student now and between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. ⓘ
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent). ⓘ
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were a ward of the court. ⓘ
- ☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care. ⓘ
- ☐ The student is or was a legally emancipated minor, as determined by a court in their state of residence. ⓘ
- ☐ The student is or was in a legal guardianship with someone other than their parent or stepparent, as determined by a court in their state of residence. ⓘ
- ☐ None of these apply.

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- **DEPENDENCY QUESTIONS**

- **ACTIVE DUTY/ VETERAN**
- **CHILDREN/DEPENDENTS**
- **ORPHAN/WARD OF THE COURT/ FOSTER CARE**
- **EMANCIPATED MINOR/ LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP**

- **PROVISIONAL INDEPENDENT**

- **HOMELESS AND UNACCOMPANIED**
- **UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

FAFSA[®] FORM 2026–27 Student Alex Tran Save FAFSA Menu

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Student Demographic Information

Questions Used for Research Purposes Only and Do Not Affect Federal Student Aid Eligibility

Your answers will not

- affect the student's eligibility for federal student aid,
- be used in any aid calculations, or
- be shared with the schools to which the student applies.

What is the student's sex? ⓘ

☒ Male

☐ Female

Previous Continue

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC

- GENDER
- RACE AND ETHNICITY
- CITIZENSHIP STATUS
- PARENT EDUCATION STATUS
- PARENT KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY
- HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Your Finances

The FAFSA[®] form helps determine your ability to pay for school. We ask about your financial information in this section.

What if you have special financial circumstances?



Previous

Continue

STUDENT FINANCIALS

- 2025 IRS INFORMATION
- NON-TAXED INCOME
- TOTAL OF CASH, SAVINGS & CHECKING
- NET WORTH OF INVESTMENTS

FAFSA[®] FORM 2026–27

Student Alex Tran

Save | FAFSA Menu

Personal

Demographics

Financials

Colleges

Contributor Invite

Signature

Selected Colleges and Career Schools

These are the colleges and career schools that you've selected to receive the FAFSA[®] form.

Review this list of schools and confirm your selection(s).

School List Guidelines for Texas Residents

To be eligible for state grant aid in Texas, you must list an eligible in-state college. The order of schools in your college list will not impact your eligibility for state aid programs.

4 out of 20 schools selected

Showing 1 to 4 of 4

American Career College

Ontario, California (CA)

Federal School Code

039713

Remove

View Information

American College of Healthcare and Techn

Riverside, California (CA)

Federal School Code

031444

Remove

View Information

American Conservatory Theater Foundation

San Francisco, California (CA)

Federal School Code

014545

Remove

View Information

American Film Institute

Los Angeles, California (CA)

Federal School Code

G22220

Remove

View Information

Search and Select More Schools

Previous

Continue

SCHOOL SELECTION

THE STUDENT IS ASKED TO SEARCH FOR THE COLLEGES AND/OR CAREER SCHOOLS THEY WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THEIR FAFSA INFORMATION.

STUDENTS MAY SELECT UP TO 20 SCHOOLS

FAFSA® FORM 2026–27 Student Alex Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Signature

Invite a Parent as a Contributor

A contributor is anyone who's required to provide information on your FAFSA form. You must invite a legal parent—a biological or adoptive parent as determined by the state.

Stepparents and other types of guardians do not count unless they have legally adopted the student.

Who counts as a parent on the FAFSA form?

Previous Continue

PARENT CONTRIBUTORS

WHO COUNTS AS A PARENT HELPS DETERMINE WHICH PARENT(S) NEEDS TO BE REPRESENTED ON THE FAFSA

WHEN PARENTS ARE NOT MARRIED OR LIVING TOGETHER

- **PARENT WHO PROVIDES MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT**
 - **LIVING EXPENSES**
 - **CHILD SUPPORT**
- **PARENT WITH GREATER INCOME AND ASSETS**

INVITES TO CONTRIBUTOR

FAFSA[®] FORM 2026-27 Student Alex Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Signature

Invite Your Parent to This FAFSA[®] Form

To determine your federal student aid eligibility, we need more information on your household financial situation. You'll need to invite a contributor to provide this information.

As a dependent student, you need to invite a legal parent as a contributor. You only need to invite one parent.

Who counts as a parent on the FAFSA form?

Parent

Invite a Parent Contributor

Email

Send Invite

FAFSA[®] FORM 2026-27 Student Alex Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics Financials Colleges Contributor Invite Signature

Parent Contributor

Once your parent accepts the invitation, they can complete the parent section of this FAFSA form.

They may be asked to invite their spouse as a contributor too. You can check the status of contributor invitations from the "My Activity" page.

Parent

599887939test@testcod.edu

Invite Sent

Other Ways to Send the Invite ^

Copy and Send the Invite Link ⓘ

www.fafsa.gov/invite/7NDNUKA Copy Link

You can also have them go to www.fafsa.gov/invite and enter code:

7NDNUKA

Cancel Invite

FAFSA[®]

FORM

2026–27

Student Alex Tran

Save

FAFSA Menu

Student Section

2

Parent Section

Pending Submission

Check With Your Contributor

Parent Contributors

Requirements for Dependent Students

Your FAFSA[®] form can't be submitted until your contributor(s) fill out their section of the form and sign it. The last contributor to sign will be able to submit the form for processing.

Contributor(s)	Role	Invite Code	Status
599887939test@testcod.edu	Parent	7NDNUKA	Invite Sent

Manage Invitations

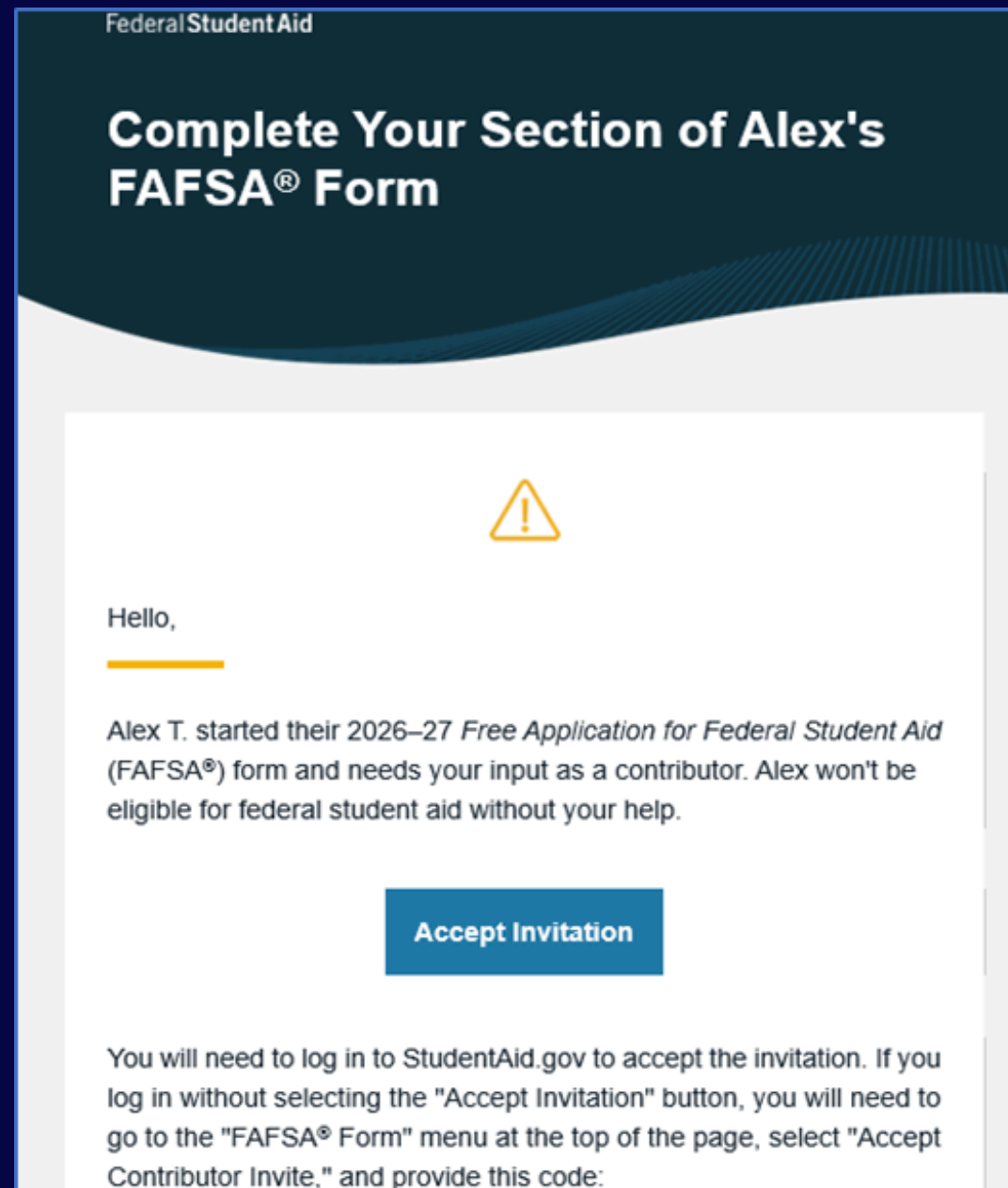
Track and Manage Your FAFSA[®] Form and Contributors

Your application has been added to the "My Activity" page in your StudentAid.gov account. Visit this page to keep track of your FAFSA status; review, edit, or delete information on your form; and monitor the status of your contributor(s).

View Status

SIGN & SUBMIT

- REVIEW THE FAFSA SUMMARY
- STUDENT SIGN WITH FSA ID
- SEE STATUS OF CONTRIBUTORS
- RECEIVE CONFIRMATION FOR SAI AND ELIGIBILITY SUMMARY ONCE ALL COMPLETE



CONTRIBUTOR PORTION

- **ONBOARDING**
- **IDENTITY INFORMATION**
- **IRS CONSENT**
- **DEMOGRAPHICS**
 - **MARITAL STATUS**
 - **STATE OF LEGAL RESIDENCE**
- **FINANCIALS**
 - **NON-TAXED BENEFITS RECEIVED**
 - **TAX FILING STATUS**
 - **FAMILY SIZE**
 - **NUMBER IN COLLEGE**
 - **CHILD SUPPORT**
 - **OTHER PARENT INFO**

FAFSA[®] FORM

2026–27

Student Alex Tran

Exit

FAFSA Menu

Congratulations,
the FAFSA[®] Form Is Complete!

Alex Tran

Completion Date

07/17/2025

Data Release Number

8083

Estimated Student Aid Index (SAI)

-1500

The estimated SAI is subject to change based on final processing of your FAFSA form. The SAI is not a measure of how much student aid you'll receive or how much you'll pay for college or career school. Schools use your SAI to determine your federal student aid eligibility.

Based on the eligibility criteria, you may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$7395.00. You may also be eligible for other federal, state, or institutional grants; scholarships; and/or work-study programs.

What Happens Next

Check Your Email

You will receive an email version of this confirmation page at the following email address: test592345879@testcod.edu.

Track the Status of Your Form

In one to three days, your FAFSA form will be processed and made available to your schools. Check the status of your form by logging in to StudentAid.gov and selecting your FAFSA submission from the "My Activity" section of your account Dashboard.

You Will Receive School Communications

We use the information collected on your FAFSA form to calculate your Student Aid Index (SAI). The SAI lets schools determine the aid you're eligible to receive. Your schools will reach out to you if they need more information. They will also contact you with your financial aid offers. Once received, you can contact their financial aid offices directly to ask questions about their student aid packages.

Track and Manage Your FAFSA[®] Form

You can check the status of your application in the "My Activity" section of your account Dashboard. We will let you know if we need anything more from you.

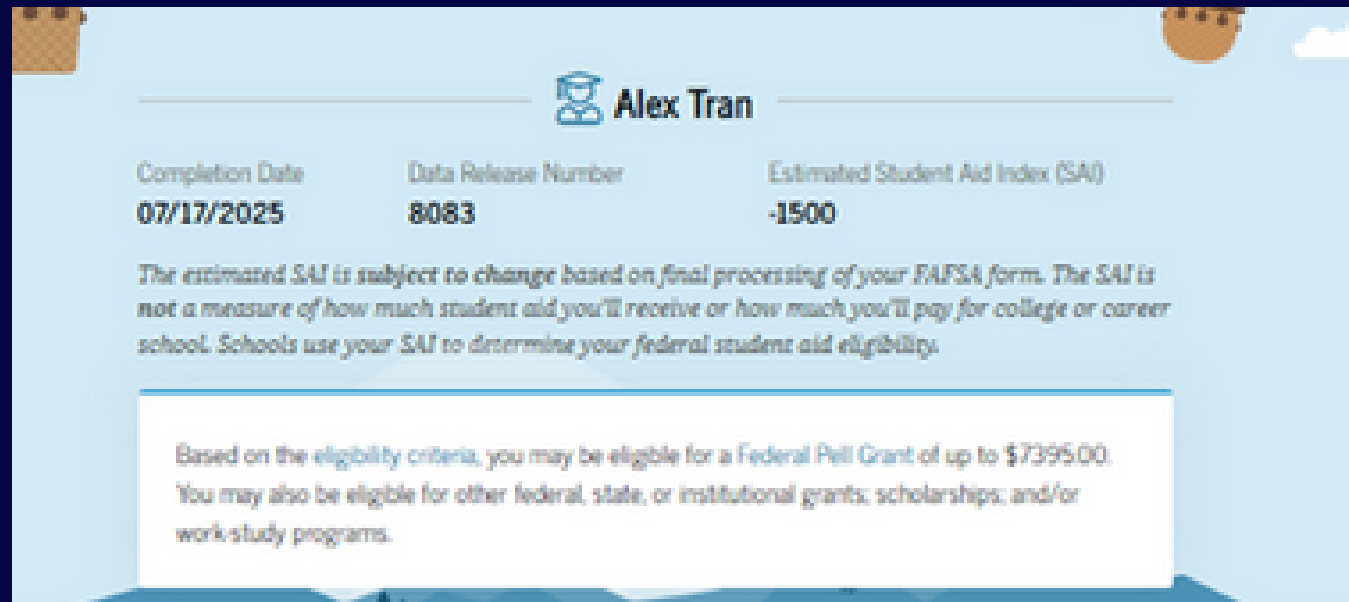
View Status

CONFIRMATION

AFTER SUCCESSFULLY SUBMITTING,
FAFSA SUBMISSION SUMMARY AND
EMAIL WILL INCLUDE:

- STUDENT AID INDEX
- PELL GRANT ELIGIBILITY: BASED ON TAX FILING STATUS, AGI, FAMILY SIZE, POVERTY LEVEL
- LOAN ELIGIBILITY: SUB LOAN AND UNSUB MAXIMUM AMOUNTS

WHAT IS AN SAI?



A screenshot of a FAFSA Student Aid Index (SAI) summary page. The page has a light blue background with a white header area. At the top, there is a header bar with a graduation cap icon and the name "Alex Tran". Below this, there is a table with three columns: "Completion Date", "Data Release Number", and "Estimated Student Aid Index (SAI)". The values are "07/17/2025", "8083", and "-1500" respectively. Below the table, there is a paragraph of text explaining that the estimated SAI is subject to change and is not a measure of how much student aid you'll receive or how much you'll pay for college or career school. At the bottom, there is a white box with text stating that based on the eligibility criteria, the student may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$7395.00, and may also be eligible for other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study programs.

Completion Date	Data Release Number	Estimated Student Aid Index (SAI)
07/17/2025	8083	-1500

The estimated SAI is subject to change based on final processing of your FAFSA form. The SAI is not a measure of how much student aid you'll receive or how much you'll pay for college or career school. Schools use your SAI to determine your federal student aid eligibility.

Based on the eligibility criteria, you may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$7395.00. You may also be eligible for other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study programs.

- NEED ANALYSIS FORMULA ESTABLISHES THE **STUDENT AID INDEX** USING THE INFORMATION REPORTED ON THE FAFSA
- SAI HELPS DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR MOST FEDERAL AND STATE ASSISTANCE
- SHOWN ON FAFSA CONFIRMATION PAGE AND FAFSA SUBMISSION SUMMARY

“

PRO TIPS TO AVOID FRUSTRATION:

- **MAINTAIN GOOD TAX RECORDS**
- **START EARLY**
- **HAVE EVERYTHING READY**
- **WORK TOGETHER**
- **WRITE DOWN PASSWORDS**
- **KEEP PASSWORDS FOR NEXT YEAR**
- **USE YOUR RESOURCES**

”

TIMELINE FOR WHAT COMES NEXT

What Happens Next

**Check Your Email**

You will receive an email version of this confirmation page at the following email address: 599888614test@testcor.eru.



Track the Status of Your Form

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Track and Manage Your FAFSA® Form

You can check the status of your application in the “My Activity” section of your account Dashboard. We'll let you know if we need anything more from you.

[View Status](#)



WHERE CAN I GET HELP WITH MY FAFSA?

- HIGH SCHOOL FAFSA NIGHTS
- ISAC REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE VISITS
- SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE, BELLEVILLE CAMPUS
 - FINANCIAL AID, VETERAN SERVICES & STUDENT EMPLOYMENT-
INFORMATION SCIENCE BUILDING, ROOM 1035. OPEN MONDAY -
THURSDAY, 8 AM TO 5 PM AND FRIDAY, 8 AM TO 4 PM.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- [STUDENTAID.GOV](https://studentaid.gov)
- [SWIC.EDU/FINANCIAL-AID](https://swic.edu/financial-aid)
- [ISAC.ORG](https://isac.org)
- [BIGFUTURE.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)
- [CSSPROFILE.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org)
- [SCHOLARSHIPS.COM](https://scholarships.com)
- [FASTWEB.COM](https://fastweb.com)

The background of the entire image is a dark blue field filled with a repeating pattern of white question marks. Each question mark is centered within a dark grey circular disc. These discs are arranged in a staggered grid, with some appearing larger than others, creating a sense of depth and movement. The word "QUESTIONS?" is centered in the middle of the image in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!



SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE
FINANCIAL AID, VETERAN SERVICES & STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
EMAIL: FIN_AID@SWIC.EDU
PHONE: (618) 235-2700, EXT. 5288