

BETTER FAFSA FSA ID FAQs

[Federal Student Aid ID (*FSA ID*) Frequently Asked Questions (*FAQs*)]

1. Who needs a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID?

- ❖ **All** individuals required to **contribute information** on the 2024-2025 FAFSA must have a valid FSA ID.

For those that have completed a FAFSA in the past:

2. Is the FSA ID application process the same?

- ❖ Not really. A social security number (SSN) is no longer required for everyone. The process for obtaining an FSA ID has expanded to allow almost everyone to get an FSA ID. The FSA ID application process requires **ALL** applicants to have a valid email address.

3. If a parent files taxes with an ITIN number, do we create an FSA ID with that number?

- ❖ The parent will not use the ITIN. They will indicate they do not have an SSN.

4. If students and parents have an existing FSA ID, will it still work?

- ❖ Yes, all previous FSA IDs will work.

5. If a student is renewing their FAFSA and their parents do not have an FSA ID, would the parent need to create one?

- ❖ Yes, their parent must create an FSA ID.

6. Can a parent use the same FSA ID that they used to complete a FAFSA?

- ❖ Yes, a parent's FSA ID is their electronic signature.

For ALL those that will complete a FAFSA in 2024-2025:

7. Can FSA IDs be created before the 2024-2025 FAFSA is released?

- ❖ Yes, it is recommended that individuals create their FSA ID more than a week before they actually complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA.

8. What if the parents don't have an email?

- ❖ They will need to create an email account.

9. How quickly does it take for an FSA ID to be valid?

- ❖ It will take 3 to 7 days for an FSA ID to be valid.

10. How does someone without an SSN create an FSA ID?

- ❖ They create an FSA ID and indicate that they do not have an SSN. The planned process will utilize TransUnion to use knowledge-based questions to verify their identity.

11. If parents don't want to get an FSA ID due to their legal status, can they fill out the paper version of the FAFSA?

- ❖ Yes, they can complete the paper version of the 2024-2025 FAFSA. The form is longer, may require more postage to mail, will take longer to process and the “wet” signature on the form will still need to be verified.
The process of verifying a “wet” signature is still being finalized.

12. Does the new FSA ID process mean that an undocumented parent can now electronically sign the FAFSA with an FSA ID?

- ❖ Yes, this is correct.

13. What if all the information for the FSA ID (email, phone, etc.) is lost, hacked, or stolen? What would be the best way to update the FSA ID information if a student can't get in?

- ❖ The individual should contact Federal Student Aid at 1-800-433-3243

14. Do you recommend that all our students and their parents create an FSA ID?

- ❖ We do recommend that all students create an FSA ID.

15. Should both parents complete a FSA ID since they may not know which parent's income will need to be included?

- ❖ It doesn't hurt to have both parents create an FSA ID so either is prepared to contribute their information on the 2024-2025 FAFSA.

16. What is to keep a student from using a parent's information and email to create an FSA ID and complete the Parent portion of the 2024-2025 FAFSA?

- ❖ We recommend that this only be done when a student is assisting their parents to create an FSA ID due to language or computer literacy limitations.