Data Elements and Justification

 **2023-2024 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form**

| **Question Number(s)** | **Data Element(s)** | **Data Element(s) Justification** | **Student Electronic Entry Treatment** Data elements are presented to all applicants, unless otherwise noted. Note that questions are not presented in numerical order online. |
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| **Step One (Student)** |
| 1-3 | Student’s name | 1. Record identification.2. Database matches. | Questions 1-3 are pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 4-7 | Student’s permanent mailing address | Applicants that do not provide an e-mail address must provide a permanent mailing address in order to receive their FAFSA processing results. | Questions 4-7 are pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 8 | Student’s Social Security Number (SSN) | 1. Section 484(a)(4)(B) of the Higher Education Act (HEA). To be eligible for Title IV student aid, a student must file with the application such student's SSN except for applicants from the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau. (See 34 CFR 668.32(i))2. Record identification.3. Database matches.4. Identifies duplicate applications.5. Valid SSN is a criterion to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.  | SSN is hard-coded for all initial applications once it is entered and pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 9 | Student’s date of birth | 1. Section 476(c)(3) and 477(c)(3) of the HEA. Used to determine an asset protection allowance for the computation of discretionary net worth for the independent student. 2. Record identification.3. Database matches.4. System edits. Cross check with question number 42: "Were you born before January 1, 2000?” | Used to answer dependency Question 45.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 10 | Student’s telephone number | Used to identify the applicant to permit servicing and collecting of student loans. Also used by customer service operations. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 11-12 | Student’s driver’s license number and state  | Used to identify the applicant and to permit servicing and collecting of Perkins Loans and Direct Loans. Also used for collection of grant overpayments. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 13 | Student’s e-mail address | Used to communicate with the student electronically. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 14 | Student’s citizenship | Section 484(a)(5) of the HEA limits Title IV eligibility to United States citizens or nationals who are permanent residents of the United States, in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and able to provide evidence from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of his or her intent to become a citizen or permanent resident, or other persons who meet special conditions. ED performs database matches with the Social Security Administration (SSA) and DHS to verify eligibility. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 15 | Student’s Alien Registration Number | Section 484(h) of the HEA requires institutional collection and verification of eligible noncitizen status. ED uses the Alien Registration Number to perform a computer match with files from DHS of persons who are eligible to receive Title IV aid. This facilitates the verification process, improves its accuracy and reduces the chance of fraud.  | Question 15 is only displayed when student response to Question 14 is “No, but I am an eligible noncitizen”.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 16 | Student’s marital status | Sections 474(b)(5), 476(b)(4), and 477(b)(5) of the HEA. Used in determining the expected family contribution for independent students. Used in determining the appropriate independent formula and for the employment expense allowance calculation. | Used to answer dependency Question 43.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 17 | Date student was married, widowed, separated, or divorced | Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance.Marital status date is a criteria used in determining a student’s eligibility to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Question 17 is only displayed when student response to Question 16 is “I am married/remarried, I am separated, or I am divorced or widowed.”Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 18 | Student’s state of legal residence | Sections 475(g)(3), 476(b)(2), and 477(b)(2) of the HEA. Used to determine an allowance for state and local taxes for the computation of the dependent and independent student’s available taxable income. | Filtering question is presented using student’s state as provided in Question 6.e.g., “Have you lived in *Ohio* for at least five years?” If “yes” student skips Questions 18-20. If “no” student is presented with Questions 18-19.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 19 | Student became resident of state prior to January 1, 2018 | Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance. | Question 19 is only displayed if student was presented with Question 18.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 20 | Student’s date of legal residence in state | Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance. | Question 20 is only displayed if student response to Question 19 is “No”.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 21-22 | Highest educational level completed by student’s Parent 1 and Parent 2 | Section 483(q)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance.Used by TRIO program, states, and institutions to determine the amount of eligibility and facilitate the packaging of federal student aid. Reduces burden on states and institutions.  | Questions 21-22 are pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 23 | High school completion status | Used by institutions to determine if a student is eligible to receive Title IV aid. Students are required to have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent in order to receive federal student aid.Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 24 | Name, city and state of the high school where student received or will receive their high school diploma | Used by the Department to assist with reporting for FAFSA completion purposes. Students are required to have a valid high school diploma or its recognized equivalent in order to receive federal student aid. | Question 24 will only be displayed if the student indicates they will have a “high school diploma” in Question 23.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 25 | First bachelor’s degree | Section 401(a)(1) of the HEA limits Federal Pell Grant eligibility to students pursuing an undergraduate course of study. Section 413B(b)(1) of the HEA limits Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant eligibility to students pursuing an undergraduate course of study. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants.This question is pre-filled to “No” if the response to Question 27 is “1st Bachelor’s degree”.  |
| 26 | Student’s grade level in 2023-2024 | Used to determine loan limits under the Federal Direct Loan program. | Used to pre-fill Question 44. |
| 27 | Degree/Certificate student will be working on in 2023-2024 | Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 28 | Interest in work-study | Used by institutions to determine if student is interested in work-study. |  |

| **Question Number(s)** | **Data Element(s)** | **Data Element(s) Justification** | **Student Electronic Entry Treatment** Data elements are presented to all applicants, unless otherwise noted. Note that questions are not presented in numerical order online. |
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| 29-30 | Type of tax return | Used for verification of income reported on the application.Questions 29 and 30 are criteria for determining a student’s eligibility to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Question 29 is used to determine if students have filed, will file, or are not going to file taxes.Question 30 will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes.  |
| 31 | Tax filing status | Used to identify instances when the reported FAFSA marital status is inconsistent with the IRS tax return filing status.Question 31 is a criterion in determining a student’s eligibility to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Question 31 will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes. |
| 32 | Student Filed Schedule 1 | Used for determining eligibility for and calculation of the simplified needs test and automatic zero EFC under Section 479 of the HEA.  | This question is only presented to independent students.Question 32 will not be presented to independent students that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income;
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax return filing status, and type of tax return filed; or type of tax return is foreign tax return.
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| 33 | 2021 adjusted gross income (AGI) | Sections 475(g)(1), 476(b)(1), 477(b)(1), 479, and 480(a) of the HEA. The base year income for the dependent student and the independent student (and spouse) is used to determine total and available income for the computation of the dependent or independent student’s contribution under Part F-Need Analysis. | Question 33 will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Response to question may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 34 | 2021 income tax paid | Sections 475(g)(2)(A), 476(b)(1)(A)(i) and 477(b)(1)(A) of the HEA. The amounts of federal income taxes of the dependent student and of the independent student (and spouse) are used in determining contribution from available income.  | This question is not presented to independent students who receive an automatic zero EFC determination.Question 34 will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes. Response to question may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 35-36 | 2021 income earned from work | Sections 475(g)(4), 476(b)(3), and 477(b)(3) of the HEA. Used to determine the Social Security Tax Allowance for the computation of available income for the dependent and independent student contribution. Sections 476(b)(4), and 477(b)(5) of the HEA. Also used to determine an employment expense allowance for independent students, and available income for the independent student’s contribution. | Question 35 is for student’s earnings and Question 36 is for student’s spouse’s earnings. Question 36 only displays if student’s marital status is “I am married/remarried.”Response to question 35 may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool when student’s marital status is single, separated, divorced or widowed. |
| 37 | Cash, savings and checking accounts | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(h), 476(c)(2)(A), 477(c)(2)(A) and 480(f) of the HEA. The student’s and/or spouse’s cash, savings and checking accounts are used to determine net worth for calculating expected family contribution for both dependent and independent students. | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test;
* Independent students who meet the simplified needs test; or
* Independent students who indicate they have less than the system calculated asset protection allowance.
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| 38 | Current net worth of investments | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(h), 476(c)(2)(B), 477(c)(2)(B) and 480(f) of the HEA. The student’s and/or spouse’s other real estate and investments and associated debts are used to determine adjusted net worth for calculating expected family contribution for both dependent and independent students. | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test;
* Independent students who meet the simplified needs test; or
* Independent students who indicate they have less than the calculated asset protection allowance.
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| 39 | Current net worth of business and/or investment farm | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(h), 476(c)(2)(C), 477(c)(2)(C) and 480(f) of the HEA. The student’s and/or spouse’s business and/or investment farm assets and associated debts are used to determine net worth for calculating expected family contribution for both dependent and independent students. A family farm, on which the family resides, is excluded from the calculation of EFC. A family business that is owned and controlled by the family with fewer than 100 full-time equivalent employees is also excluded. | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test;
* Independent students who meet the simplified needs test; or
* Independent students who indicate they have less than the system calculated asset protection allowance.
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| 40 | Student and spouse 2021 additional financial information | Sections 480(a) and 480(e) of the HEA. Used to derive a figure for “excludable income” such as student financial aid, child support paid, etc., which is not to be included in defining total income for purposes of computing the expected family contribution. | This question is not presented to independent students that receive an automatic zero EFC determination.Question 40 a, d, and e will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Response to 40a (education credits) may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 41 | Student and spouse 2021 untaxed income | Sections 480(b) and 480(c) of the HEA. Untaxed income for students and parents is used to determine available income for computing parental and student contribution. | This question is not presented to independent students that receive an automatic zero EFC determination.Question 41 b, d, and e will not be presented to students who indicate in Question 29 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Response to 41b (IRA deductions and payments), 41d (tax exempt interest income), and 41e (untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions), and may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 42 | Born before January 1, 2000 | Sections 480(d)(1)(A) through 480(d)(1)(I) of the HEA. Used to determine whether applicant qualifies as a dependent or independent student. Questions 51-54 were specifically mandated by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA).These elements (questions 42 through 54) are needed to determine whether parental data must be supplied and, therefore, which sections of the form the applicant needs to complete.  | This question is not presented to the student because the question is pre-filled based on the student’s response to Question 9. |
| 43 | Married | This question is not presented to the student because the question is pre-filled based on the student’s response to Question 16. |
| 44 | Enrolled in graduate or professional program in 2023-2024 | This question is not presented to the student because the question is pre-filled based on the student’s response to Question 26. |
| 45 | Currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces? | This question is not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-44 or 47-48.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 46 | Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? | This question is not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-44 or 47-48.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 47 | Have children? | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 48 | Have non-children dependents other than a spouse? | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 49 | After the age of 13 - orphan; ward or dependent of the court; or in foster care? | This question is not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-44 or 47-48.Pre-filled for renewal applicants |
| 50 | Court decided you are an emancipated minor? | This question is not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-44 or 47-48.Pre-filled for renewal applicants |
| 51 | Court decided you are in a legal guardianship? | This question is not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-44 or 47-48.Pre-filled for renewal applicants |
| 52 | High school district homeless liaison determined you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? | Questions 52-54 are not presented if student is determined to be independent in Questions 42-51.If student is dependent, questions 52-54 will only be presented if student answers “Yes” to the Homeless Filtering question – “On or after July 1, 2022, were you homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?”Students who answer “Yes” to the Homeless Filtering question but “No” to questions 52, 53 and 54 will be taken down an alternate path to allow them to submit their application without parental data and follow-up with the financial aid office. Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 53 | Director of HUD-funded emergency shelter program determined that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? |
| 54 | Director of runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determined that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? |
| 55 | Parents’ current marital status | Section 475(f) of the HEA. Used in determining whose income is to be reported in calculating the expected family contribution. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 56 | Date parents were married, widowed, separated, or divorced | Used by the Department to estimate erroneous Pell Grant payments as required by the Improper Payments Act, by matching against an IRS database each year.Marital status date is a criterion in determining a parent’s eligibility to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Question 56 is only displayed when parent response to Question 55 is “I am married/remarried, I am separated, or I am divorced or widowed.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 57-64 | Parents’ Social Security Numbers, last names, first initials, and dates of birth | Sections 483(a)(7) and 484(q) of the HEA . Used by the Department to estimate erroneous Pell Grant payments as required by the Improper Payments Act, by matching against an IRS database each year.Valid SSN is a criterion to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Questions 57-60 ask for demographic data on student’s Parent 1. Questions 61-64 ask for demographic data on student’s Parent 2. For students who indicate parents are never married, divorced or separated, or widowed, a filtering question “Which parent’s information will be provided?” is asked. Based on student’s response, demographic questions for Father or Mother are presented. Questions 57-64 are pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 65 | Parents’ e-mail address | Used to communicate with the parents electronically. | Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 66 | Parents’ state of legal residence | Section 475(c)(1) and 475(c)(2) of the HEA. Used to determine state and other tax allowances for the computation of parental available income. | Filtering question is presented using student’s state as provided in Question 6.e.g., “Have your parents lived in *Ohio* for at least five years?” If “yes” student skips Questions 66-68. If “no” student is presented with Questions 66-67.Pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 67-68 | Parents’ date of legal residence in state | Section 483(a)(1) of the HEA requires inclusion of data items selected in consultation with the states to assist the states in awarding state student financial assistance. | Question 67 is only displayed if parent was presented with Question 66.Question 68 is only displayed if parents’ response to Question 66 is “No”.Questions 67-68 are pre-filled for renewal applicants. |
| 69 | Number in parents’ household | Sections 475(c)(1), 475(c)(4), and 480(l) of the HEA. Used to determine an income protection allowance for computation of parental income. |  |
| 70 | Parents’ number in college in 2023-2024 | Section 475(b)(3) of the HEA. The expected family contribution from income and assets is divided by the number of persons in college (excluding parents) who are enrolled on at least a half time basis in a recognized degree or certificate program at an eligible institution to determine the family contribution for the applicant.  |  |
| 71-75 | Parents received federal benefits in 2021 or 2022 | Sections 479(b) and 479(c) of the HEA. The Higher Education Reconciliation Act (HERA) states that a family is eligible for the simplified needs or automatic zero EFC calculation if the student or parents received benefits and met the appropriate income threshold. | Questions 71-75 will not be presented to parents that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income;
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax return filing status, and type of tax return filed; or
* Respond “no” to Question 79 (Schedule 1); or
* Respond “yes” to Question 80 (dislocated worker).
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| 76-77 | Parents’ type of tax return for 2021 | Used for verification of income reported on the application.Questions 76 and 77 are criteria for determining a parent’s eligibility to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. | Question 76 is used to determine if parents have filed, will file, or are not going to file taxes.Question 77 will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes.  |
| 78 | Parents’ tax filing status for 2021 | Used to identify instances when the reported FAFSA marital status is inconsistent with the IRS tax return filing status. | Question 78 will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Question 78 will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 55 that they are “unmarried and both parents living together.”  |
| 79 | Parent File Schedule 1 | Used for determining eligibility for and calculation of the simplified needs tests and automatic zero EFC under Section 479 of the HEA.  | Question 79 will not be presented to parents that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income;
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax filing status, and type of tax return filed; orType of tax return filed is foreign tax return.
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| 80 | Dislocated worker | The College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) authorized simplified needs test and automatic zero EFC formula treatment under Section 479 for parents of dependent students if either parent is a dislocated worker. | Question 80 will not be presented to parents that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income; or
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax return filing status, and type of tax return filed; or
* Respond “no” to Question 79 (Schedule 1).
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| 81 | Parents’ 2021 AGI | Sections 475(b)(1) and 480(a) of the HEA. The base year income for the dependent student’s parents is used to determine total and available income for the computation of parental contribution. | Question 81 will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Response to question 81 may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 82 | Parents’ 2021 income tax paid | Section 475(c)(1)(A) of the HEA. The amounts of federal income taxes of the dependent student’s parents are used in determining contribution from available income. | Question 82 will not be presented to parents that:* Indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes; or
* Qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination.

Response to question 82 may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 83-84 | Parents’ 2021 income earned from work | Section 475(c)(3) of the HEA. Used to determine the Social Security Tax Allowance for the computation of available income for the parent contribution. Section 475(c)(5) of the HEA. Also used to determine an employment expense allowance for parents of dependent students, and available income for the parental contribution. | Question 83 is for Parent 1 earnings and Question 84 is for Parent 2 earnings. These questions are dynamically displayed based on parent’s marital status.Response to question 83 or 84 may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool when parent’s marital status is never married, divorced or separated, or widowed. |
| 85 | Parents’ cash, savings, and checking accounts | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(d)(2)(A) and 480(f) of the HEA. The parent’s cash, savings and checking accounts are used to determine net worth for calculating EFC.  | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test; or
* Dependent students whose parents indicated they have less than the calculated asset protection allowance.
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| 86 | Parents’ current net worth of investments | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(d)(2)(B), and 480(f) of the HEA. The parent’s other real estate and investments and associated debts are used to determine adjusted net worth for calculating EFC.  | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test; or
* Dependent students whose parents indicate they have less than the calculated asset protection allowance..
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| 87 | Parents’ current net worth of business and/or investment farm | Sections 474(b)(4), 475(h), 476(c)(2)(C), 477(c)(2)(C) and 480(f) of the HEA. The parent’s business and/or investment farm assets and associated debts are used to determine net worth for calculating EFC. A family farm, on which the family resides and materially operates, is excluded from the calculation of EFC. A family business that is owned and controlled by the family with fewer than 100 full-time employees is also excluded. | When the student’s state of legal residence is one that allows for the skipping of questions not used in the EFC calculation, this question is not presented to: * Dependent students whose parents meet the simplified needs test; or
* Dependent students whose parents indicate they have less than the calculated asset protection allowance.
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| 88 | Parents’ additional 2021 financial aid information | Sections 480(a) and 480(e) of the HEA. Used to derive a figure for “excludable income” such as student financial aid, child support paid, etc., which is not to be included in defining total income for purposes of computing the expected family contribution. | Question 88 will not be presented to parents that qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination.Question 88 a, d, and e will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes.Response to 88a (education credits) may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 89 | Parents’ 2021 untaxed income | Section 480(b) and 480(c) of the HEA. Untaxed income for parents is used to determine available income for computing parental and student contribution. | Question 89 will not be presented to parents that qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination.Question 89 b, d, and e will not be presented to parents who indicate in Question 76 that they are “not going to file” taxes. Response to 89b (IRA deductions and payments), 89d (tax exempt interest income), and 89e (untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions) may be available through IRS Data Retrieval Tool. |
| 90 | Number in student household | Sections 476(b)(1), 477(b)(4), and 480(l) of the HEA. Used to determine an income protection allowance for computation of independent student income. | May be pre-filled based on student response to Questions 16, 47, and 48 (marital status, children, and other dependents). |
| 91 | Number in college in 2023-2024 | Sections 476(a)(2) and 477(a)(3) of the HEA. The expected family contribution from income and assets is divided by the number of persons in college who are enrolled on at least a half-time basis at an eligible institution to determine the expected family contribution for the applicant.  |  |
| 92-96 | Student or Spouse received federal benefits in 2021 or 2022 | Sections 479(b) and 479(c). The Higher Education Reconciliation Act (HERA) states that a family is eligible for the simplified needs or automatic zero EFC calculation if the student or parents received benefits and met the appropriate income threshold. | Questions 92-96 will not be presented to independent students that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income;
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax return filing status, and type of tax return filed; or
* Respond “no” to Question 32 (Schedule 1); or
* Respond “yes” to Question 97 (dislocated worker).
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| 97 | Dislocated worker | The College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA), Section 479 authorizes simplified needs test and automatic zero EFC formula treatment for independent students if either the student or the student’s spouse is a dislocated worker. Consistent with Section 479(c), an independent student with no dependents other than a spouse remains ineligible for an automatic zero EFC determination. | Question 97 will not be presented to independent students that:* Do not qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income; or
* Already qualify for the automatic zero EFC determination or simplified needs test based on income, tax return filing status, and type of tax return filed; or
* Respond “no” to Question 32 (Schedule 1).
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| 98a-98h | Student’s college selections and housing plan at each college | Used to generate electronic data rosters of applicants to educational institutions. These rosters facilitate the disbursement of aid by notifying financial aid administrators of the status of applicants who attend or may attend the institution. Reduces burden and facilitates the award process.The paper FAFSA allows entry of four federal school codes. Questions 98a-98h are presented on the paper FAFSA.The list of colleges is not included on the ISIR sent to schools. The ISIR sent to a school includes only the school code and associated housing plan for that school. The list of colleges is included on the ISIR that is sent to State Grant Agencies. | Allows entry of ten school codes. Questions 98a-98t are presented online. |
| 99-100 | Certifications, date, and signatures | Serves as certification of the validity of the information reported on the application and as an edit.  |  |
| 101-103 | Preparer’s information | Section 483(d) of the HEA requires that any application shall include the name, address, organizational affiliation, and either the SSN or employer identification number of the preparer of such application. | Questions 101-103 will only be presented if response is “Yes” to the filtering question – “Are you a preparer?” |