Data Elements and Justification

**2024-2025 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form**

Purpose: The Data Elements and Justification is provided to accompany the review of the 2024-25 FAFSA form. It identifies the data elements associated with each FAFSA question and provides the justification for including each question on the FAFSA form.

| **Question**  **Numbers(s)#** | **Data Element(s)** | **Data Element(s) Justification** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Student Identity Information   * First name * Middle name * Last name * Suffix * Date of birth * Social Security number (SSN) * Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)   The ITIN is collected when the student doesn’t have an SSN. | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act  Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)-  Additional Data Element specific to FUTURE Act |
| 2 | Student Contact Information   * Mobile phone number * Email address * Permanent mailing address * City * State * ZIP code * Country | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 3 | Student Current Marital Status | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 4 | Student College or Career School Plans   * Grade level in college 20XX-20XX * First bachelor's degree before 20XX - 20XX school year * Pursuing teacher certification | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act  Pursuing Teacher Certification-  Additional Data Element Required for Eligibility Determination |
| 5 | Student Personal Circumstances-   * Active duty * Veteran * Children or other dependents * Orphan * Ward of court * Foster care * Emancipated minor * Legal guardianship * None of these apply | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 6 | Student Other Circumstances:   * Unaccompanied and homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless   Entity who provided homeless or self-supporting and at risk of homelessness determination:   * Director or designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving those experiencing homelessness * The student’s high school or school district homeless liaison or designee * Director or designee of a project supported by federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant * Financial Aid Administrator (FAA) * None of these apply | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 7 | Student Unusual Circumstances | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 8 | Apply for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 9 | Family Size  This question is N/A when the student has been determined to be dependent. | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 10 | Number in College  This question is N/A when the student has been determined to be dependent. | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 11 | Student Demographic Information   * Gender | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 12 | Student Race and Ethnicity   * Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin * Race | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 13 | Student Citizenship   * Citizenship status * A-number | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 14 | Student State of Legal Residence-   * State * Legal residence date | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 15 | Parent Education Status | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 16 | Parent Killed in the Line of Duty | Additional Data Elements Required for Eligibility Determination |
| 17 | Student High School Completion Status-   * High school (HS) or equivalent completed * HS Name * City * State * State-recognized high school equivalent * Issuing state | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 18 | Federal Benefits Received   * Earned income Tax Credit (EITC) * Federal housing assistance * Free or reduced-price school lunch * Medicaid * Refundable credit for coverage under a qualified health plan (QHP) * Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) * Supplemental Security Income (SSI) * Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) * Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) * None of these apply   This question is N/A when the student has been determined to be dependent. | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 19 | Student Tax Filing Status   * Filed 1040 or 1040-NR * Filed non-U.S. tax return * Filed joint return with current spouse | Required to Determine Accuracy |
| Question 20- Student XXXX Tax Return Information | | |
| a | Filing status  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| b | Income earned from work  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| c | Tax exempt interest income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| d | Untaxed portions of IRA distributions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| e | IRA rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| f | Untaxed portions of pensions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| g | Pension rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| h | Adjusted gross income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| i | Income tax paid  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| j | EITC received during tax year? | Additional Data Elements Required for Eligibility Determination |
| k | IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| l | Education credits  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| m | Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H?  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| n | Net profit or loss from IRS Form 1040 Schedule C amount  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| o | College grants, scholarships, or AmeriCorps benefits (optional) | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| p | Foreign earned income exclusion | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 21 | Annual Child Support Received | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 22 | Student Assets   * Total of cash, savings, and checking accounts * Net worth of current investments * Net worth of businesses/investment farms | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 23 | College Selections | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 24 | Student Consent and Signature   * Consent to retrieve and disclose federal tax information (FTI) * Signature * Signature date | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| Student Spouse Data Elements must be completed when the student is married or remarried. | | |
| 25 | Student Spouse Identity Information   * First name * Middle name * Last name * Suffix * Date of birth * SSN | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 26 | Student Spouse Contact Information   * Email address | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| Student Spouse: The following data elements are N/A unless student is married and did not file a joint tax return with their current spouse. | | |
| 25 | Student Spouse Identity Information   * ITIN   The ITIN is collected when the student’s spouse doesn’t have an SSN. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| 26 | Student Spouse Contact Information   * Mobile phone number * Permanent mailing address * City * State * ZIP code * Country | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 27 | Student Spouse Tax Filing Status   * Filed 1040 or 1040-NR * Filed non-U.S. tax return | Required to Determine Accuracy |
| Question 28: Student Spouse XXXX Tax Return Information | | |
| a | Filing status  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| b | Income earned from work  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| c | Tax exempt interest income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| d | Untaxed portions of IRA distributions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| e | IRA rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| f | Untaxed portions of pensions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| g | Pension rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| h | Adjusted gross income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| i | Income tax paid  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| j | IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| k | Education credits  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| l | Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H?  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| m | Net profit or loss from IRS Form 1040 Schedule C amount  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| n | Foreign earned income exclusion | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 29 | Student Spouse Consent and Signature   * Consent to retrieve and disclose FTI * Signature * Signature date | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| Parent: The following data elements are N/A unless student has been determined to be dependent. | | |
| 30 | Parent Identity Information   * First name * Middle name * Last name * Suffix * Date of birth * SSN * ITIN   The ITIN is collected when the parent doesn’t have an SSN. | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act  Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)-  Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| 31 | Parent Contact Information   * Mobile phone number * Email address * Permanent mailing address * City * State * ZIP code * Country | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 32 | Parent Current Marital Status | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 33 | Parent State of Legal Residence   * State * Legal residence date | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 34 | Family Size | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 35 | Number in College | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 36 | Federal Benefits Received   * Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) * Federal housing assistance * Free or reduced-price school lunch * Medicaid * Refundable credit for coverage under a qualified health plan (QHP) * Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) * Supplemental Security Income (SSI) * Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) * Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) * None of these apply | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 37 | Parent Tax Filing Status   * Filed 1040 or 1040-NR * Filed non-U.S. tax return * Filed joint return with current spouse | Required to Determine Accuracy |
| Question 38: Parent XXXX Tax Return Information | | |
| a | Filing status  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| b | Income earned from work  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| c | Tax exempt interest income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| d | Untaxed portions of IRA distributions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| e | IRA rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| f | Untaxed portions of pensions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| g | Pension rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| h | Adjusted gross income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| i | Income tax paid  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| j | EITC received during tax year? | Additional Data Elements Required for Eligibility Determination |
| k | IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and qualified plans  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| l | Education credits  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| m | Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H?  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| n | Net profit or loss from IRS Form 1040 Schedule C amount  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| o | College grants, scholarships, or AmeriCorps benefits (optional) | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| p | Foreign earned income exclusion | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 39 | Annual Child Support Received | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 40 | Parent Assets   * Total of cash, savings, and checking accounts * Net worth of current investments * Net worth of businesses/investment farms | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 41 | Parent Consent and Signature   * Consent to retrieve and disclose FTI * Signature * Signature date | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| Other Parent data elements must be completed when the parent is married, remarried, or unmarried and both legal parents living together. | | |
| 42 | Other Parent Identity   * First name * Middle name * Last name * Suffix * Date of birth * SSN | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 43 | Other Parent Contact Information:  Email address | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| Other Parent: The following data elements are N/A unless the parent and other parent listed on the form did not file a joint tax return. | | |
| 42 | Other Parent Identity:  ITIN | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| 43 | Other Parent Contact Information   * Mobile phone number * Permanent mailing address * City * State * ZIP code * Country | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 44 | Other Parent Tax Filing Status   * Filed 1040 or 1040NR * Filed non-U.S. tax return | Required to Determine Accuracy |
| Question 45: Other Parent XXX Tax Return Information | | |
| a | Filing status  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| b | Income earned from work  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| c | Tax exempt interest income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| d | Untaxed portions of IRA distributions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| e | IRA rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| f | Untaxed portions of pensions  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| g | Pension rollover | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| h | Adjusted gross income  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| i | Income tax paid  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| j | IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| k | Education credits  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| l | Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H?  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| m | Net profit or loss from IRS Form 1040 Schedule C amount  The response to this question may be available through the direct data exchange with the IRS. | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| n | Foreign earned income exclusion | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 46 | Other Parent Consent and Signature   * Consent to retrieve and disclose FTI * Signature * Signature date | Data Elements Specific to FUTURE Act |
| Preparer Data Elements are required if someone other than the student, student spouse, parent, or other parent completes the form on the applicant’s behalf. | | |
| 47 | Preparer Identity Information   * First name * Last name * SSN * Employer Identification Number (EIN) | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 48 | Preparer Contact Information   * Affiliation/Organization * Permanent mailing address * City * State * ZIP code | Data Elements Specific to FAFSA Simplification Act |
| 49 | Preparer Signature   * Signature * Signature date |  |