

The Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) is a **free** application that is accepted at public and private colleges in the State of Texas. These notes help explain certain questions on the TASFA, but you can also contact the financial aid office at the institution you currently attend or plan to attend for the **2023-24** award year if you need additional assistance completing this application.

SECTION ONE: STUDENT INFORMATION

Notes for questions 1 and 2 (page 1)

Enter your full, legal first and last name. Do not use nicknames or abbreviations since this information will be used to match your application with your official student record if you enroll at a college.

Notes for question 5 (page 1)

If you have been issued a Social Security card, enter your assigned number. If you have been approved for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), enter your assigned Social Security Number (SSN) through this program. If you have an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), enter it. If you do not have any of these, mark "N/A."

Note that an SSN is not necessary to be eligible for state financial aid and will be used to match your application with your official student record if you enroll at a college. Personal information collected on the TASFA is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

Notes for question 6 (page 1)

Enter your permanent mailing address street number and street name, or PO Box (be sure to include your apartment number, if applicable).

Notes for question 11 (page 1)

Enter your email address. Do not use an email account issued by your high school, college or work. The email account should be one you review often. You must provide your email address.

Notes for question 12 (page 1)

Select the answer that describes your high school completion status.

- High school diploma means you have received or will receive a high school diploma before the first date of your enrollment in college.
- High School Equivalency Certificate (i.e., GED, HiSET, etc.) means you have received or will receive an equivalency certificate before the first date of your enrollment in college.
- Homeschooled means you have completed homeschooling at the secondary level regulated by your state.
- "None of the Above" means you do not or will not have a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent before the first date of your enrollment in college and did not complete secondary school in a homeschool setting.

Notes for question 15 (page 1)

Enter your gender at birth. This will only be used for purposes of determining items related to Selective Service.

Notes for question 16 (page 1)

Individuals who were born male are required to complete a **Selective Service Statement of Registration Status** ([Texas Education Code \(TEC\), Title 3, Section 51.9095](#)). If you are male and between the ages of 18 through 25, you can register or review registration requirements by visiting [www.sss.gov](#) or completing a registration form found at a U.S. Post Office. If you are over the age of 25, you can no longer register.

Notes for question 17 (page 2)

Report your marital status as of the date you sign your TASFA. If your marital status changes after you sign your TASFA, check with the financial aid office at your institution.

Notes for question 19 (page 2)

If your spouse has been issued a Social Security card, enter the assigned number. If they have been approved for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), enter their assigned Social Security Number (SSN) through this program. If they have an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), enter it. If they do not have any of these, mark "N/A."

Note that an SSN is not necessary to be eligible for state financial aid and will be used to match your application with your official student record if you enroll at a college. Personal information collected on the TASFA is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

Notes for questions 20 and 21 (page 2)

Enter 2021 earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.), even if a tax return was not filed. This information may be on W-2 forms or on your tax return: IRS Form 1040—line 1 (or IRS Form 1040-NR—line 1a) + Schedule 1—lines 3 + 6 + Schedule K-1 (IRS Form 1065)—Box 14 (Code A).

If any individual earning item on these tax forms is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

In order to accurately assess your financial situation, your institution needs to account for all sources of income. In cases where your family's earnings from employment are at or above the IRS filing threshold requirements, the financial aid office will require that you file taxes before processing your TASFA. Tax filing requirements can be found in IRS Publication 17, Table 1-1: 2021 Filing Requirements for Most Taxpayers. See <https://www.irs.gov/uac/About-Publication-17>.

Nontax filers: If you (and your spouse) did not file taxes, contact the financial aid office to see if additional information is needed.

Notes for question 22 (page 2)

If you indicate you "Will file" a 2021 tax return and your 2020 income is similar to your 2021 income, use your 2020 income tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income. If your application is selected for review, your college may require you to provide tax transcripts to verify the information you provided on the application.

Notes for question 23 (page 2)

If you filed or will file a foreign tax return or IRS 1040NR, or a tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory (e.g., Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swain's Island, or the Northern Marianas Islands), or one of the Freely Associated States, use the information from that return to fill out this form. If you filed a foreign return, convert all monetary units to U.S. dollars using the published exchange rate in effect for the date nearest to today's date. To view the daily exchange rates, go to federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current.

Notes for question 24 (page 2)

If you filed or will file an IRS Form 1040 tax return, select your tax return filing status for 2021 from the “Filing Status” field:

- Single
- Head of household
- Married – filed joint return
- Married – filed separate return
- Qualifying widow(er)
- Don’t know

The “Filing Status” field is located at the top of page one on IRS Form 1040.

Notes for question 25 (page 2)

Answer “No” if you (and if married, your spouse) did not file a Schedule 1.

Answer “No” if you (and if married, your spouse) did or will file a Schedule 1 to report only one or more of the following items:

- Unemployment compensation (line 7)
- Other income to report (line 8 - may not be a negative value)
- Educator expenses (line 11)
- IRA deduction (line 20)
- Student loan interest deduction (line 21)
- Receiving, selling, sending, exchanging, or otherwise acquiring any financial interest in any virtual currency

Answer “Yes” if you (or if married, your spouse) filed or will file a Schedule 1 and reported additional income or adjustments to income on any lines other than or in addition to the six exceptions listed above.

If you do not know if you filed or will file a Schedule 1, select “Don’t know”.

Notes for question 26 (page 2)

If you filed a 2021 tax return (or if married, you and your spouse filed a joint tax return), the AGI can be found on IRS Form 1040—Line 11.

If you and your spouse filed separate tax returns, calculate your total AGI by adding line 11 from both 2021 tax returns and entering the total amount.

If you or your spouse will file a federal tax return but haven’t yet filed, estimate the amount that will appear in line 11 of your IRS Form 1040.

If one of you filed a tax return and the other didn’t and won’t file, add line 11 from your 2021 IRS Form 1040 to your spouse’s 2021 income earned from working (for example, earnings from the W-2 form[s] and/or any other earning statements).

Notes for question 27 (page 2)

This question cannot be left blank if you (and your spouse) filed or will file a 2021 income tax return.

Income tax paid can be found on your 2021 IRS Form 1040 on line 22 minus Schedule 2—line 2. If negative, enter zero.

Note: The line numbers above are from the Internal Revenue Service tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 28 (page 2)

This question is asking about your current situation and is unrelated to previous tax years. The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that you (or your spouse) are a dislocated worker. In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if the person:

- is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation; or
- has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job; or
- was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic

conditions or natural disaster; or

- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and has experienced a loss of employment because of relocating due to permanent change in duty station; or
- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and is unemployed or underemployed, and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment; or
- is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home parent), is no longer supported by the spouse, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

Note: If a person quits work, generally they are not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits. This situation excludes a spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces.

Notes for question 29 (page 2)

Add the account balances of your (and your spouse’s) cash, savings, and checking accounts as of today. Enter the total of all accounts as the total current balance. If the total is negative, enter zero as the total current balance.

Do not add student financial aid into your account balances. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Notes for question 30 (page 2)

Net worth means the current value, as of today, of investments, businesses, and/or investment farms, minus debts related to those same investments, businesses, and/or investment farms. When calculating net worth, use 0 for investments or properties with a negative value.

Investments include real estate (do not include the home in which you live), rental property (includes a unit within a family home that has its own entrance, kitchen, and bath rented to someone other than a family member), trust funds, UGMA and UTMA accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc.

Investments also include qualified educational benefits or education savings accounts (e.g., Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, and the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans). For a student who does not report parental information, the accounts owned by the student (and/or the student’s spouse) are reported as student investments. For a student who must report parental information, the accounts are reported as parental investments, including all accounts owned by the student and all accounts owned by the parents for any member of the household.

Investments do not include the home you live in, the value of life insurance, ABLE accounts, retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non-education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.) or cash, savings, and checking accounts already reported in questions 29 and 78.

Investments also do not include UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the custodian but not the owner.

Investment value means the current balance or market value of these investments as of today. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

Notes for question 31 (page 2)

Enter the net worth (current value minus debt) of the current businesses and/or investment farms that you (and your spouse) own as of today.

Business and/or investment farm value includes the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Business and/or investment farm debt means only those debts for which the business or investment farm was used as collateral.

Business value does not include the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50% of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. For small business value, your family includes: (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister, or cousin; or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent, or sister-in-law.

Investment farm value does not include the value of a family farm that you (your spouse) live on and operate.

Notes for question 32a (page 2)

You will only have this information if you (or your spouse) submitted a 2021 federal tax return.

- If you and your spouse filed separate tax returns, add IRS Form 1040 Schedule 3—line 3 from both tax returns and enter the total amount.
- If you or your spouse will file a federal tax return but haven't yet filed, estimate the amount that will appear in the lines noted above.

Note: The line number (IRS Form 1040 Schedule 3—line 3) is from the IRS tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 32b (page 2)

Enter the total amount of child support you (and your spouse) paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement in 2021. Do not include support for children in your household. Report the total annual amount you (and your spouse) paid in 2021. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Notes for question 32c (page 2)

Enter the total amount of taxable earnings that you (and your spouse) received in 2021 from work-study or other need-based work programs, such as fellowships and assistantships. Work-study is reported on your W-2 form as income earned from work and should be reported here whether or not you are a tax filer.

Note: The amounts reported in the Student's Additional Financial Information fields (a-f) are treated differently in the EFC calculation, and you will not be penalized.

Notes for question 32d (page 2)

Enter the total amount of grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS as part of your (and your spouse's) adjusted gross income (AGI) for 2021.

This is student aid that was part of the student's (and your spouse's) financial aid package but was also considered taxable and included in the student's (and your spouse's) AGI. In most cases, grant and scholarship aid is not reported on the tax return as part of your AGI unless the amount you received exceeds your educational expenses (tuition, fees, books, supplies, or equipment). See IRS Publication 970.

Student aid types to report may include:

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Waivers/Remissions
- Fellowships/Assistantships (grant or scholarship portions)

- AmeriCorps education awards
- AmeriCorps living allowances (but not insurance or child care payments)
- AmeriCorps interest accrual payments (for student loan interest that accrued while you were in AmeriCorps)

Notes for question 32e (page 2)

Enter the total amount of taxable combat pay or special combat pay that you (and your spouse) received in 2021. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in the adjusted gross income.

Note: Do not enter untaxed combat pay reported on the W-2 Box 12, Code Q.

Notes for question 32f (page 2)

Enter the amount of received income earned from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college that you (and your spouse) received in 2021. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

- If you received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months you received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If you did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts you received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Notes for question 33a (page 3)

Enter the total amount you paid to your tax-deferred pension and savings plans (paid directly or withheld from your earnings) in 2021. These amounts are reported on the W-2 form in boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. Don't include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).

Notes for question 33b (page 3)

Enter the amount of IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh, and other qualified plans that you (and your spouse) received in 2021. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Note: The line number references above are from the IRS tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 33c (page 3)

Enter the total amount of child support you (and your spouse) received in 2021 for all children in your household.

- If you received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months you received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If you did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts you received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Note: Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

Notes for question 33d (page 3)

Enter the total amount of tax-exempt interest income you (and your spouse) received in 2021. If you (and your spouse) filed IRS Form 1040, use line 2a.

Note: The line number references above are from the IRS tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for Question 33e (page 3)

Enter the total amount of the untaxed portions of IRA distributions you (and your spouse) received in 2021. If the total is a negative amount, enter a zero (0).

If you (and your spouse) filed IRS Form 1040, use (lines 4a + 5a) minus (lines 4b + 5b).

Notes for question 33f (page 3)

Enter the total cash value of housing, food, and any other living allowances you (and your spouse) received in 2021. These allowances are often paid to military, clergy, and others.

Do not include rent subsidies for low-income housing, the value of on-base military housing, or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.

Notes for question 33g (page 3)

Veterans non-education benefits include Disability, Death Pension, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.

Do not include veterans' educational benefits, such as the Montgomery GI Bill, Dependents Education Assistance Program, VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program, VEAP Benefits, and Post-9/11 GI Bill.

- If you received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months you received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If you did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts you received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Notes for question 33h (page 3)

Enter the total amount of any other untaxed income or benefits you received for 2021, such as workers compensation, Black Lung Benefits, untaxed portions of Railroad Retirement Benefits, disability, etc. that you (and your spouse) received. Also include untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040 Schedule 1—line 13.

Do not include extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements, (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion, or credit for federal tax on special fuels.

Notes for question 33i (page 3)

Enter the total amount of cash support you (and your spouse) received in 2021 from a friend or relative (other than your parents, if you are a dependent student). Report the amount if it is not reported elsewhere on this application.

If someone is paying rent, utility bills, etc., for you while you attend school, include the amount of that person's contributions, unless the person is your parent whose information is reported on this application.

Include money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information isn't reported on this form and that isn't part of a legal child support agreement.

Note: This includes distributions to you (the student beneficiary) from a 529 plan that is owned by someone other than you or your parents (such as, your grandparents, aunts, uncles, and noncustodial parents).

Notes for questions 34-38 (page 3)

The information being collected below will only be used to help determine eligibility for certain state financial aid options.

Information disclosed about federal benefits received is protected from unauthorized distribution to third parties under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

SECTION TWO: STUDENT STATUS DETERMINATION

Notes questions 41-53 (page 4)

Student Status questions help determine if you will need to give parental information on your TASFA. If you answer **yes** to **any** of the student status questions, you will **not** need to give parental information. If you answer **no** to **all** of the following student status questions, then **you will need** parental information and for your parent to sign your application.

Notes for question 41 (page 4)

If you were born on January 1, 2000, you should enter “No.”

Notes for question 42 (page 4)

Report your marital status as of the date you sign your TASFA (enter married if you are separated but not divorced). If your marital status changes after you sign your TASFA, check with the financial aid office at the institution you plan to attend.

Notes for question 44 (page 4)

Answer “Yes” if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for other than state or training purposes.

Answer “No” if you are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for state or training purposes.

Notes for question 45 (page 4)

Answer “No” (you are not a veteran) if you:

- have never engaged in active duty (including basic training) in the U.S. armed forces,
- are currently a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy,
- are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee activated only for state or training purposes, or
- were engaged in active duty in the U.S. armed forces but released under dishonorable conditions.

Also answer “No” if you are currently serving in the U.S. armed forces and will continue to serve through June 30, 2024.

Answer “Yes” (you are a veteran) if you:

- have engaged in active duty (including basic training) in the U.S. armed forces or are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies; and
- were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Also answer “Yes” if you are not a veteran now but will be one by June 30, 2024.

Notes for question 48 (page 4)

Answer “Yes” if at any time since you turned age 13:

- you had no living parent, even if you are now adopted; or
- you were in foster care, even if you are no longer in foster care today; or
- you were a dependent or ward of the court, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court today. (Someone who is incarcerated is not considered a ward of the court.)

Note: If you are not sure if you were in foster care, check with your state child welfare agency. You can find that agency's contact information at childwelfare.gov/nfcad.

The financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or a dependent or ward of the court.

Notes for questions 49 & 50 (page 4)

The definition of legal guardianship does not include your parents, even if they were appointed by a court to be your guardians. You are also not considered a legal guardian of yourself. An emancipated minor is someone who has been legally deemed an adult by a court in his or her state of residence.

Answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of the court’s decision that, as of today, you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship.

Also, answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court’s decision was made.

Answer “No” if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.

Note: The financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide additional information such as a copy of the court’s decision.

Notes for questions 51-53 (page 4)

Answer “Yes” if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2022, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless.

- “Homeless” means lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing. You may be homeless if you are living in shelters, parks, motels, hotels, public spaces, camping grounds, cars, abandoned buildings, or temporarily living with other people because you have nowhere else to go. Also, if you are living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent, you may be considered homeless even if your parent would otherwise provide a place to live.
- “Unaccompanied” means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.

Answer “No” if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless, or do not have a determination. However, even if you answer “No,” you should contact the financial aid administrator at the college you plan to attend if you are either (1) homeless and unaccompanied or (2) at risk of being homeless, unaccompanied, and providing for your own living expenses, as your college financial aid office can determine that you are “homeless” and are not required to provide parental information.

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide a copy of the determination if you answered “Yes” to any of these questions.

SECTION THREE: PARENT INFORMATION

Notes for questions 54-83 (pages 4-6)

If you answer no to all of the student status questions in Section 2, then **you will need** parental information and for your parent to sign your application.

Note: If you believe you have a special circumstance in which you are unable to enter parental information when completing the TASFA, it is important for you to notify and work closely with the financial aid office of the institution you plan to attend. In limited circumstances such as the ones listed below, you may be able to submit your TASFA without providing parental information:

- your parents are incarcerated.
- you have left home due to an abusive family environment.
- you do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them (and you have not been adopted).

In these special circumstances, it is important for you to understand

the following: The financial aid staff may ask for additional information to determine whether you can have an expected family contribution (EFC) calculated without parental data. Gather as much written evidence of your situation as you can. Written evidence may include court or law enforcement documents; letters from a clergy member, school counselor, or social worker; and any other relevant documentation that explains your special circumstance.

Notes for question 54 (page 4)

Report your legal parents’ marital status as of the date you sign your TASFA (enter married if they are separated but not divorced).

- If your parent was never married and does not live with your other legal parent, or if your parent is widowed and not remarried, answer the questions about that parent.
- If your legal parents (biological, adoptive, or as determined by the state [for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate]) are not married to each other and live together, select “Unmarried and both legal parents living together” and provide information about both of them, regardless of their gender. Do not include any person who is not married to your parent and who is not a legal or biological parent.
- If your legal parents are married, select “Married or remarried.” If your legal parents are divorced but living together, select “Unmarried and both legal parents living together.” If your legal parents are separated but living together, select “Married or remarried,” not “Divorced or separated.”
- If your parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. (If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the past 12 months or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent.) If this parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.
- If your widowed parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

Notes for questions 59 and 66 (page 4-5)

If your parent has been issued a social security card, enter their assigned number. If your parent has been approved for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), enter your assigned social security number (SSN) through this program. If your parent has an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), enter it. If your parent does not have an assigned SSN or other number, mark “N/A.”

Note that a parent SSN is not necessary for you to be eligible for state financial aid. Personal information collected on the TASFA is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

Notes for question 61 (page 4)

The email provided for your parent is very important that it be a regularly reviewed email account. Please make sure that the email is accurate.

Notes for questions 62 and 69 (page 4-5)

Select the answer that best describes the highest level of education completed by your parent. Some financial aid is offered based on the level of schooling your parents completed.

Notes for questions 70 and 71 (page 5)

Enter Parent 1 and Parent 2 (if applicable) 2021 earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.), even if a tax return was not filed. This information may be on W-2 forms or on Parent 1’s tax return: IRS Form 1040—line 1 (or IRS Form 1040-NR—line 1a) + Schedule 1—lines 3 + 6 + Schedule K-1 (IRS Form 1065)—Box 14 (Code A).

If any individual earning item on these tax forms is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

Notes for question 72 (page 5)

If your parents are now married or living together, answer this question about them as a couple. If they are not married and not living together, answer this question about the parent who is reporting financial information on this application.

If you indicate Parent "Will file" a 2021 tax return and your 2021 income is similar to your 2020 income, use your 2020 income tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income.

If your application is selected for review, your college may require you to provide tax transcripts to verify the information you provided on the application.

Notes for question 73 (page 5)

If your parent filed or will file a foreign tax return or IRS 1040NR, or a tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory (e.g., Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swain's Island, or the Northern Marianas Islands), or one of the Freely Associated States, use the information from that return to fill out this form. If your parent filed a foreign return, convert all monetary units to U.S. dollars, using the published exchange rate in effect for the date nearest to today's date. To view the daily exchange rates, go to [federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current](https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current).

Notes for question 74 (page 5)

If a parent filed or will file an IRS Form 1040 tax return, you must select the tax return filing status for 2021 from the "Filing Status" field:

- Single
- Head of household
- Married – filed joint return
- Married – filed separate return
- Qualifying widow(er)
- Don't know

The "Filing Status" field is located at the top of page one on IRS Form 1040.

Notes for question 75 (page 5)

Answer "No" if your parents did not file a Schedule 1.

Answer "No" if your parents did or will file a Schedule 1 to report only one or more of the following items:

- Unemployment compensation (line 7)
- Other income to report (line 8 - may not be a negative value)
- Educator expenses (line 11)
- IRA deduction (line 20)
- Student loan interest deduction (line 21)

Receiving, selling, sending, exchanging, or otherwise acquiring any financial interest in any virtual currency

Answer "Yes" if your parents filed or will file a Schedule 1 and reported additional income or adjustments to income on any lines other than or in addition to the six exceptions listed above.

If you do not know if your parents filed or will file a Schedule 1, select "Don't know".

Notes for question 76 (page 5)

If your parents filed a 2021 tax return, the AGI can be found on IRS Form 1040—Line 11.

If your parents filed separate tax returns, calculate the total AGI by adding line 11 from both 2021 tax returns and entering the total amount.

If your parents will file a federal tax return, but haven't yet filed, estimate the amount that will appear in line 11 of your IRS Form 1040.

If one parent filed a tax return and the other didn't and won't file, add line 11 from the 2021 IRS Form 1040 to your other parent's 2021 income earned from working (for example, earnings from the W-2 form[s] and/or any other earning statements).

Notes for question 77 (page 5)

This question cannot be left blank if your parents filed or will file a 2021 income tax return.

Income tax paid can be found on your 2021 IRS Form 1040 on line 22 minus Schedule 2—line 2. If negative, enter zero.

Note: The line numbers above are from the Internal Revenue Service tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 78 (page 5)

Add the account balances of your parents' cash, savings, and checking accounts as of today. If the total is negative, enter zero as the total current balance. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Notes for question 79 (page 5)

Net worth means the current value, as of today, of investments, businesses, and/or investment farms minus debts related to those same investments, businesses, and/or investment farms. When calculating net worth, use 0 for investments or properties with a negative value.

Investments include real estate (do not include the home in which you live), rental property (includes a unit within a family home that has its own entrance, kitchen, and bath rented to someone other than a family member), trust funds, UGMA and UTMA accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc.

Investments also include qualified educational benefits or education savings accounts (e.g., Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, and the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans). For a student who does not report parental information, the accounts owned by the student (and/or the student's spouse) are reported as student investments. For a student who must report parental information, the accounts are reported as parental investments, including all accounts owned by the student and all accounts owned by the parents for any member of the household.

Investments do not include the home you live in, the value of life insurance, ABLE accounts, retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non-education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.) or cash, savings, and checking accounts already reported in question 29 and 78.

Investments also do not include UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the custodian but not the owner.

Investment value means the current balance or market value of these investments as of today. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

Notes for question 80 (page 5)

Enter the net worth (current value minus debt) of the current businesses and/or investment farms that your parents own as of today.

Business and/or investment farm value includes the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Business and/or investment farm debt means only those debts for which the business or investment farm was used as collateral.

Business value does not include the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50% of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent

employees. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister, or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent, or sister-in-law.

Investment farm value does not include the value of a family farm that your parents live on and operate.

Notes for question 81 (page 5)

This question is unrelated to previous tax years and is asking about your parent's current situation. The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that your parent is a dislocated worker. In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if the person:

- is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation; or
- has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job; or
- was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or
- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and has experienced a loss of employment because of relocating due to permanent change in duty station; or
- is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and is unemployed or underemployed, and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment; or
- is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the spouse, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

Note: If a person quits work, generally they are not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits. This situation excludes a spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces.

Notes for question 82a (page 5)

Your parent will only have this information if a 2021 federal tax return was submitted.

- If your parents filed separate tax returns, add IRS Form 1040 Schedule 3—line 3 from both tax returns and enter the total amount.
- If one or both parents will file a federal tax return, but haven't yet filed, estimate the amount that will appear in the line noted above.

Note: The line number (IRS Form 1040 Schedule 3—line 3) is from the IRS tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 82b (page 5)

Enter the total amount of child support your parents paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement in 2021. Don't include child support paid for children in your parents' household. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Notes for question 82c (page 6)

Enter the total amount of taxable earnings that your parents received in 2021 from Federal Work-Study or other need-based work programs such as fellowships and assistantships.

Federal Work-Study is income earned from work. This income would appear on your parents W-2 forms and should be reported here, whether or not your parents filed taxes.

Notes for question 82d (page 6)

Enter the total amount of grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS as part of your parents adjusted gross income (AGI) for 2021.

This is student aid that was also considered taxable and included in the parents' AGI. In most cases, grant and scholarship aid is not

reported on the tax return as part of your AGI unless the amount you received exceeds your educational expenses (tuition, fees, books, supplies, or equipment). See IRS Publication 970 for more information.

Student aid types to report as part of the AGI may include:

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Waivers/Remissions
- Fellowships/Assistantships (grant or scholarship portions)
- AmeriCorps education awards
- AmeriCorps living allowances (but not insurance or child care payments)
- AmeriCorps interest accrual payments (for student loan interest that accrued during your AmeriCorps term of service).

Notes for question 82e (page 5)

Enter the total amount of taxable combat pay or special combat pay that your parents received in 2021. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in the adjusted gross income. Do not enter untaxed combat pay reported on the W-2 in Box 12, Code Q.

Notes for question 82f (page 5)

Enter the total amount of income earned from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college your parents received in 2021.

Report the total annual amount your parents received.

- If your parents received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months your parents received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If your parents did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts your parents received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Notes for question 83a (page 6)

Enter the total amount of tax-deferred pension and savings plans (paid directly or withheld from your earnings) your parents received in 2021. These amounts are reported on the W-2 form in boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. These include but are not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H and S. Don't include amounts reported in code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).

Notes for question 83b (page 6)

Enter the total amount of IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE and Keogh your parents received in 2021. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Note: The line number references above are from the IRS tax form, not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 83c (page 6)

Enter the total amount of child support your parents received in 2021 for all children in your household.

- If they received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months they received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If they did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts they received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Note: Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

Notes for question 83d (page 6)

Enter the total amount of tax-exempt interest income your parents received in 2021.

If your parents filed: IRS Form 1040 - Use Line: 2a

Note: The line number references above are from the IRS tax form,

not from the W-2 form.

Notes for question 83e (page 6)

Enter the total amount of the untaxed portions of IRA distributions your parents received in 2021. If the total is a negative amount, enter a zero (0).

If your parents filed IRS Form 1040, use (lines 4a + 5a) minus (lines 4b + 5b).

Notes for question 83f (page 6)

Enter the total cash value of housing, food, and any other living allowances your parents received in 2021. These allowances are often paid to military, clergy, and others.

Do not include rent subsidies for low-income housing, the value of on-base military housing, or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.

Notes for question 83g (page 6)

Enter the total amount of veterans non-education benefits your parents received in 2021. Round to the nearest dollar and do not include commas or decimal points.

Veterans non-education benefits include Disability, Death Pension, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.

Do not include veterans educational benefits such as the Montgomery GI Bill, Dependents Education Assistance Program, VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program, VEAP Benefits, or Post-9/11 GI Bill.

- If your parents received the same dollar amount every month, multiply the amount by the number of months they received it. The result is the total annual amount.
- If your parents did not receive the same amount each month, add together the amounts they received each month. The result is the total annual amount.

Notes for question 83h (page 6)

Enter the total amount of any other untaxed income or benefits your parents received for 2021, such as workers compensation, Black Lung Benefits, untaxed portions of Railroad Retirement Benefits, disability, etc. that your parents received. Also include untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040 Schedule 1—line 13.

Do not include extended foster care benefits, student aid, earned income credit, child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements, (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion, or credit for federal tax on special fuels.

Notes for Submitting a Paper Copy TASFA

Each institution may have a different process for receiving paper copy TASFAs. Some institutions may prefer that a paper copy TASFA is mailed directly to the Financial Aid Office and other institutions may prefer that you upload or email a copy through a secure platform. Before submitting or mailing your application, [contact your institution's financial aid office](#) to clarify the procedure.

The information provided on the TASFA will be used by the receiving institution to calculate your student financial need and eligibility for state and institutional financial aid. For any questions on the submission process or to confirm your TASFA has been received, contact your institution's financial aid office directly.