

What's an FSA ID and Why Do I Need One?

You are receiving this page because you (Student and/or Parent) did not properly sign the FAFSA using your FSA ID.

The FSA ID is the username and password you use when you visit certain U.S. Department of Education systems, including studentaid.gov. The FSA ID acts as your signature on the FAFSA. Use this page to assist yourself in submitting a valid and signed FAFSA using your FSA ID signature.



How do I get an FSA ID?

Visit <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch> to learn about and create an FSA ID.

Here's what you need to get your FSA ID:

- your Social Security number (you must have an SSN to get an FSA ID)
- your full name (must match your Social Security card)
- your date of birth

You will be required to provide either your email address and/or mobile phone number and opt-in to messaging when you make your FSA ID. Providing a mobile phone number and/or email address that **YOU** have access to will make it easier to log in, unlock your account, retrieve your username or reset your password. **Just make sure you don't use the same e-mail address as someone else (your parent, for instance). Each e-mail address can be associated with only one FSA ID.**

What are some of the uses for my FSA ID?

Among other things, you can use your FSA ID to:

- **sign and submit, correct, and check the status of your online *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>;**
- review what federal student aid you have received in the past by logging in at [StudentAid.gov/login](https://studentaid.gov/login); or
- sign federal student loan documents, complete loan entrance or exit counseling, and/or apply for income-based loan repayment at [StudentAid.gov/login](https://studentaid.gov/login)

Top FSA ID Tips

- **Never tell anyone else your FSA ID—not even your parent, child, school official, or loan company representative. Remember, your FSA ID is your signature. Protect it!**
- Create your own FSA ID. Letting someone else create or use your FSA ID can cause problems or delays with your student aid. And never make an FSA ID for someone else.
- You'll use your FSA ID every year you fill out a FAFSA and for the lifetime of any loans. So be sure to take a little time while making it to create a memorable username, password, and answers to your “challenge questions.” Keep your FSA ID in a safe place, or memorize it.
- **One of your parents might need an FSA ID as well.** If you need to provide information about your parents on the FAFSA, **one of your parents will have to sign the application.** Your parent can create an FSA ID and then **sign the FAFSA electronically using that FSA ID.** Not sure whether you will need to put your parents' information on the FAFSA? Check out [StudentAid.gov/dependency](https://studentaid.gov/dependency)
- Each e-mail address can be associated with only one FSA ID. If you share an e-mail address with someone else, only one of you will be able to use that e-mail address to create an FSA ID. So, for instance, if you're a dependent student, and you and your mom share an e-mail address, one of you should use a different e-mail address when creating an FSA ID. **Use an email address that you will have access to in the future.**
- You can include a mobile phone number on your FSA ID that can be used in place of your username/email address when logging it. It can also be used to help you retrieve/reset your FSA ID, as long as it has been verified at the time you added it. Like the email address only one mobile phone number can be associated with each individual FSA ID. So, for instance, you and your parent could not use the same mobile phone number for both your accounts.
- When you first create your FSA ID, use of your FSA ID will be restricted to completing, signing, and submitting an original (first-time) FAFSA form. You'll have to wait one to three days for your information to be confirmed by the Social Security Administration (SSA) before you can use your FSA ID for other actions, such as submitting a FAFSA Renewal or signing a Master Promissory Note. If you provided an email address, then you'll receive an email letting you know that your information was successfully matched with the SSA and you can use your FSA ID for all of its purposes.
- If you had a Federal Student Aid PIN, you can link that with your FSA ID and use your FSA ID immediately on any of the websites that require it. If you didn't have a PIN, or didn't link it to your FSA ID, at first you will only be able to use your FSA ID to complete, sign, and submit an original FAFSA. Within one to three days of creating your FSA ID, you should receive an e-mail indicating that you may now use your FSA ID for all of its purposes—including to submit a Renewal FAFSA.