

# START HERE

## ★ WHO IS CONSIDERED A LEGAL PARENT? ★

Legal parents are biological or adoptive (regardless of gender), or as determined by the state (for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate). Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, widowed stepparents, aunts, uncles, and siblings are not considered parents on the FAFSA form unless they have legally adopted the student.

A stepparent is considered a legal parent only if they have adopted the student. Stepparents that have not adopted the student will be identified as parent spouse.

★ ARE YOUR LEGAL PARENTS MARRIED TO EACH OTHER (NOT SEPARATED)? ★

YES

DID YOUR PARENTS FILE TAXES TOGETHER (JOINTLY)?

NO

YES

DO YOUR PARENTS LIVE TOGETHER?

NO

NO

YES

Only one parent is required as a contributor on the FAFSA and will report information for both parents. Only parent contributor will need a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID).

Both parents are contributors on the FAFSA. One parent will be prompted to invite the other parent. Both parents will need their own StudentAid.gov accounts (FSA IDs).

DID ONE PARENT PROVIDE MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAN THE OTHER OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS?

NO

If both parents provided an exact equal amount of financial support, the parent **with the greater income and assets** is required as a contributor on the FAFSA and will need a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID).

YES

Only the parent who provided more financial support **over the past 12 months** is required as a contributor on the FAFSA. Only this parent will need a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID).

AND

AND

If the parent and stepparent filed taxes together, only the parent is required as a contributor and will need a StudentAid.gov account (FSA ID). If the parent and stepparent did not file taxes together, both are contributors and will need their own StudentAid.gov accounts (FSA IDs).

IS THIS PARENT MARRIED/ REMARRIED?

NO

YES

# FAFSA

# PARENT WIZARD

## Who is your Parent Contributor on the FAFSA?

