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STRANGER  
— THINGS —

PANEL



DAISHA  
HOLMES

MODERATOR



BRENDA  
HICKS

SOUTHWESTERN



MELINDA  
HARRINGTON

GCCC



ELIZABETH  
WEILER

KU



DANIELLE  
SULLIVAN

JCCC

**CHAPTER ONE**

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**NEW TERMINOLOGY**



# NEW TERMINOLOGY

**CONTRIBUTOR** - any individual required to provide consent and approval for federal tax information along with their signature on the FAFSA® form, including the student; the student's spouse; a biological or adoptive parent; or the parent's spouse (stepparent).

**ROLE BASED** – each contributor will need to complete their own section on the FAFSA

**CONSENT** – each contributor must provide their consent. No Consent = no financial aid

**STUDENT AID INDEX** – replaces the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as a formal evaluation of a student's approximate financial resources to contribute toward their postsecondary education for a specific award year.

**PROVISIONAL INDEPENDENT STUDENT** – Students with unusual circumstances can be assigned this status and receive an estimated SAI. Schools must follow up

**UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES** – conditions that justify a financial aid administrator making an adjustment to a student's dependency status, based on an unusual situation

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES** – extenuating situations that impact the student's financial condition, such as loss of income

# MAIN CHARACTERS

WHAT CONTRIBUTORS NEED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA



FSAID



TAX  
RETURNS



ASSETS



COLLEGES



FEDERAL  
BENEFITS

CHILD SUPPORT RECEIVED  
CASH, SAVINGS, CHECKING  
INVESTMENT NET WORTH  
BUSINESS/FARM NET WORTH

# CHAPTER TWO

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# UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES



# PROVISIONAL INDEPENDENT STUDENT

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- A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO BYPASS THE PARENTAL INFORMATION UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES
  - THE STUDENT CAN ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THE DEPENDENCY QUESTIONS
  - THE STUDENT INDICATES THEY HAVE AN UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE AND CANNOT PROVIDE PARENTAL INFORMATION
  - THE STUDENT DOES NOT HAVE AN UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE BUT INDICATES ON THE FAFSA THAT THEIR PARENT IS UNWILLING TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA




# LET'S REVIEW...



**FAFSA**<sup>®</sup> FORM 2024-25 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

### Your Personal Circumstances

Tell us about your marital status; your financial dependencies; your plans for college; and any other special circumstances that may impact your aid eligibility (including if you've been homeless or at risk of becoming so).



→ This information can affect how much aid you're eligible to receive.

→ Based on your answers, we may need to collect additional information from other people.

[Previous](#) [Continue](#)

- BORN BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2001
- MARRIED
- ACTIVE DUTY/VETERAN
- CHILDREN OR OTHER DEPENDENTS
- ORPHAN
- WARD OF THE COURT
- FOSTER CARE
- EMANCIPATED MINOR
- LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP
- HOMELESS



If the student selects yes, they will be allowed to submit the FAFSA without parental information and assigned a status of Provisional Independent Student. An unofficial SAI will be calculated, but the student must follow up with the school. A Financial Aid Administrator will make a determination regarding dependency



FAFSA<sup>®</sup> FORM 2024-25 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

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### Student Unusual Circumstances

This information will help us evaluate the student's ability to pay for school.

Do unusual circumstances prevent the student from contacting their parents or would contacting their parents pose a risk to the student?

A person experiencing unusual circumstances may have:

- Left home due to an abusive or threatening environment;
- Been abandoned by or estranged from their parents, and have not been adopted;
- Been granted refugee or asylee status and are separated from their parents, or their parents are displaced in a foreign country;
- Been a victim of human trafficking;
- Been incarcerated, or their parents are incarcerated and contact with them would pose a risk to them; or
- Been otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents, and have not been adopted.

If their circumstances resulted in not having a safe, stable place to live, they may be considered a homeless youth and should review the answer to the previous question about being unaccompanied and homeless.


Yes  No

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### Your Dependency Status

 **Provisionally Independent Student**

Based on your answers, you're a provisionally independent student. This means you don't need to answer questions about your parents to submit your application.

To complete your application, you'll need to contact your school's financial aid office and provide documentation to verify your circumstances.

We won't be able to calculate your Student Aid Index (SAI) until you confirm your circumstances with your financial aid office. Until then, we will provide only an estimate of your federal student aid eligibility as an independent student.

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If the student does not have unusual circumstances, but their parent is unwilling to provide their information. Parental information is skipped, and the student has the option to receive a Direct Unsubsidized Loan only.  
NO PELL GRANTS, NO SUBSIDIZED LOAN.  
The student is considered a Provisionally Independent student and must follow up with their college



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### Student Unusual Circumstances

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- Been otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents, and have not been adopted.

If their circumstances resulted in not having a safe, stable place to live, they may be considered a homeless youth and should review the answer to the previous question about being unaccompanied and homeless.


Yes  No

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FAFSA<sup>®</sup> FORM 2024-25 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

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### Student Dependency Status

 **Dependent Student**  
Based on your answers, you're a dependent student, and since we assume parents of dependent students will help pay for your education if they are able, we need information about their finances and backgrounds. This information is used to determine how much financial aid you're eligible to receive.

### Apply for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan Only

Are the student's parents unwilling to provide their information, but the student doesn't have an unusual circumstance that prevents them from contacting or obtaining their parents' information?

Select "Yes" if the student wants a financial aid administrator at their school to determine their eligibility for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan only.

Yes  No

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# WHO CAN MAKE A HOMELESS DETERMINATION?

## Student Other Circumstances

At any time on or after July 1, 2023, was the student unaccompanied and either (1) homeless or (2) self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

Yes

No

Did any of the following determine the student was homeless or at risk of becoming homeless?

Select all that apply.

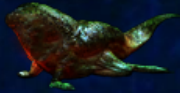
Director or designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving those experiencing homelessness

The student's high school or school district homeless liaison or designee

Director or designee of a project supported by a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant

Financial aid administrator (FAA)

None of these apply.



DIRECTOR  
OF A  
SHELTER



MCKINNEY  
VENTO REP



TRIO/GEAR UP



FINANCIAL AID  
ADMINISTRATOR



# RECOMM ENDATION

Have students follow up with the individual colleges to see what documentation they will need to confirm their unusual circumstance because until the student's circumstances are verified and documented by the student's financial aid office, they will not have an official SAI calculated. Therefore, no eligibility. Financial Aid Offices are required to follow up with Provisionally Independent Students no later than 60 days after enrollment.

Schools also must now accept Dependency Overrides and Homeless determinations from other institutions. This means their status can carry over from institution to institution.

**CHAPTER THREE**

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**UNDOCUMENTED/DACA  
STUDENTS**



# UNDOCUMENTED & DACA

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## THE PARENT IS UNDOCUMENTED/DACA

Through the new FSAID process, parent FAFSA contributors should be able to set up their ID without having a SSN. This process will be released at the same time as the 2024-2025 FAFSA – no exact date, but sometime in December.

When the FAFSA asks for the parent SSN, they enter all zeros in the SSN field – 000000000. Parent citizenship status does not affect student eligibility, unless the parent will not provide consent.



## THE STUDENT IS UNDOCUMENTED/DACA

Students who are undocumented or have DACA status are not eligible for federal or state aid. However, some undocumented/DACA students may qualify for resident tuition at Kansas colleges if they

- Attended an accredited Kansas high school for 3 or more years AND
- Graduated or earned their Kansas GED AND
- Fills out an affidavit at the institution

Students with this status need to be careful if filing a FAFSA. If they accidentally mark the “US Citizen” or “Eligible Non-Citizen” box this could negatively affect any future citizenship eligibility. This is considered falsifying a federal application and could lead to deportation.

These students are mostly eligible for scholarships.

# CHAPTER FOUR

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# FOSTER CARE

# KANSAS FOSTER CARE STUDENTS



Students who were in foster care in the state of Kansas do not have to pay tuition & fees at certain Kansas colleges. This applies to:

- Vocational schools, technical schools, community colleges, the municipal university, state educational institutions or technical colleges

They are responsible for paying: food, housing, books, supplies, transportation

## Criteria

- In the custody of Department of Children & Families (DCF) **and** in foster care placement on or after 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Released from custody of DCF before age 18 **and** graduated from high school/received GED while in foster care.
- Adopted from foster care on or after 16<sup>th</sup> birthday while in custody of DCF.
- Released from foster care placement subject to a guardianship under chapter 38 or 59 of the KSA on or after 16<sup>th</sup> birthday while in custody of DCF.
- Must remain in good academic standing.

Each institution may process these differently.

[https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/pps/documents/ppm\\_forms/section\\_7000\\_forms/pps7260.pdf](https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/pps/documents/ppm_forms/section_7000_forms/pps7260.pdf)

# CHAPTER FIVE

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# SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES



# SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The income listed on the FAFSA no longer accurately portrays the student's financial situation

- Loss of income - Job loss, reduction in hours, retirement
- Excess medical or dental costs
- One-time payment - investment funds, insurance payout, inheritance
- Other payments - private school tuition, student loans



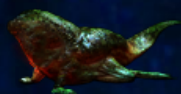
LOSS OF  
INCOME



MEDICAL  
DENTAL



ONE-TIME  
PAYMENT

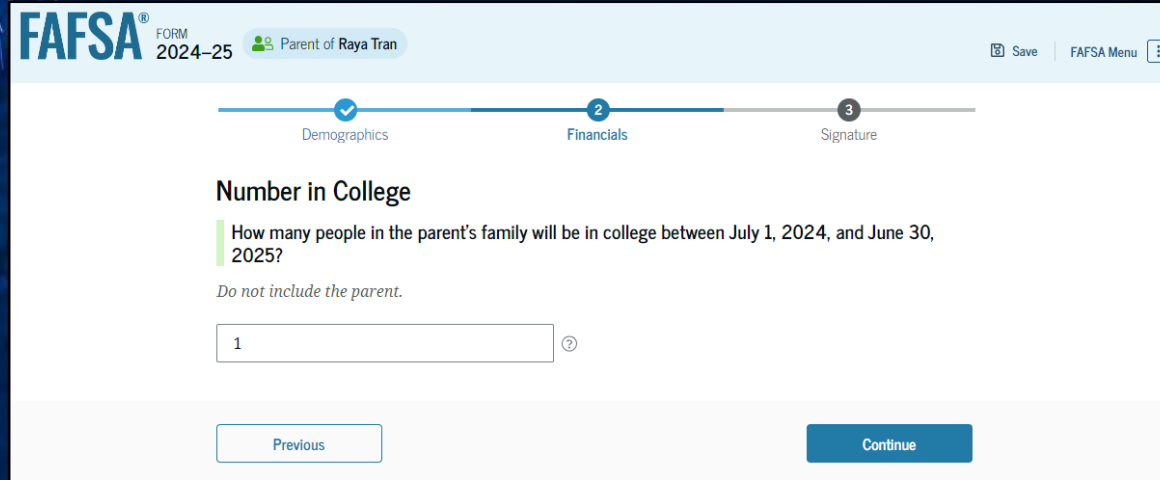


OTHER  
PAYMENTS



# NUMBER IN COLLEGE

Although the FAFSA will still ask for number in college, the formula to determine a student's aid eligibility will no longer take the number in college into consideration.



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Demographics Financials Signature

### Number in College

How many people in the parent's family will be in college between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025?

*Do not include the parent.*

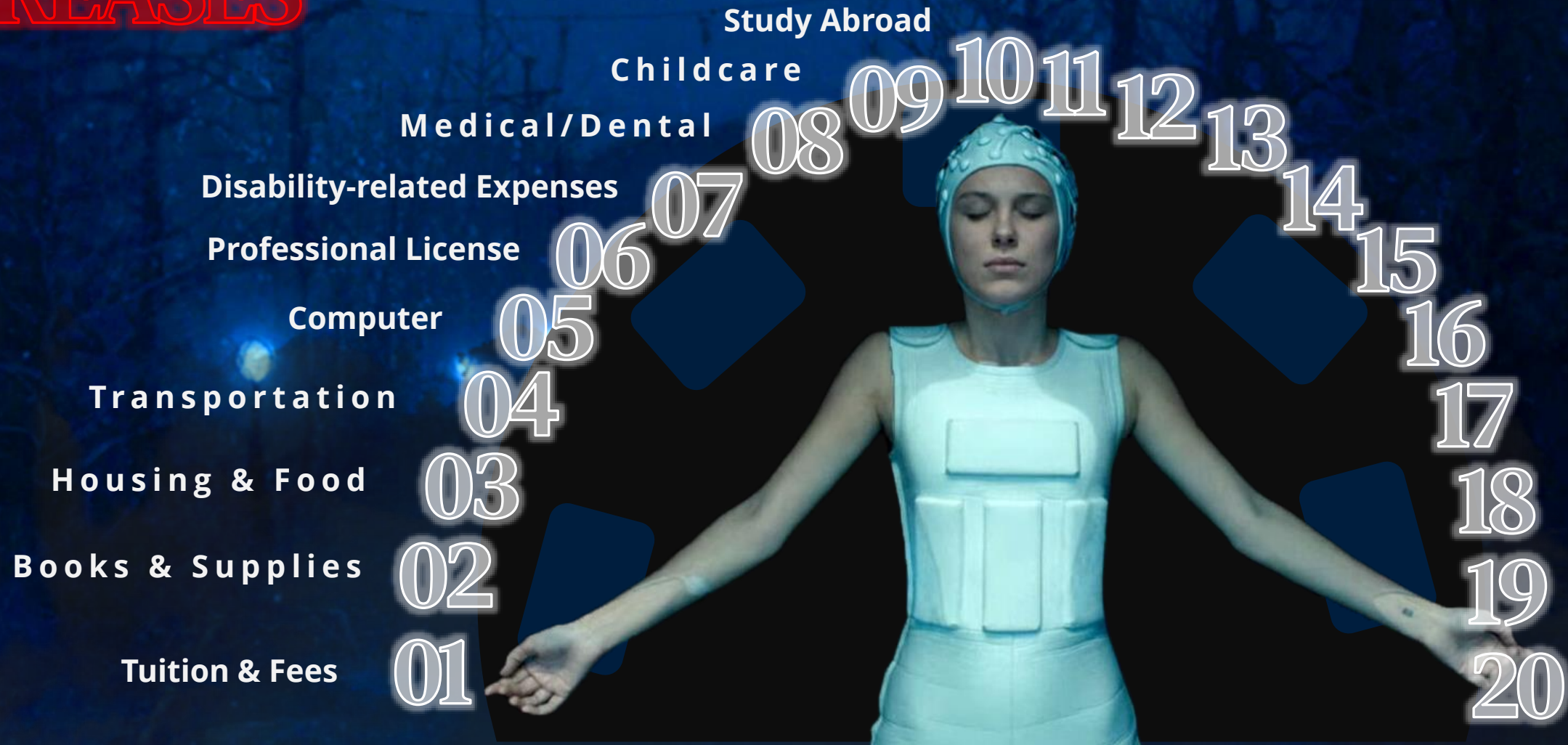
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This may cause some students to lose aid eligibility that they were previously receiving.





# COST OF ATTENDANCE INCREASES





# UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS

NOVEMBER 7 9:30 – 11:00  
SCHOLARSHIPS

TO BE DETERMINED...

FSAID CHANGES & STUDENTAID.GOV  
ACCOUNT SET-UP (FOR STUDENTS &  
PARENTS), FSAID CHANGES & FAFSA  
COMPLETION, FINANCIAL AID 102



A blue-tinted photograph of a snowy path at night. The path is covered in snow and leads through a wooded area. String lights are visible in the background, and the overall scene is dimly lit with a cool blue color palette.

**THANK YOU**

**QUESTIONS?**

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR EVALUATIONS!**