# Introduction to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



Your **potential** is our **promise**.®

#### How and when to apply for Financial Aid

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - The FAFSA must be submitted to receive federal, state, and select Berkeley College aid
  - FAFSA.ED.GOV
  - Mobile FAFSA for Apple
  - Mobile FAFSA for Google Play
  - New year FAFSAs begin October 1. Students must reapply every year for aid.
  - NJ Students must renew by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2021/2022 FAFSAs request 2019 income information

#### How and when to apply for Financial Aid

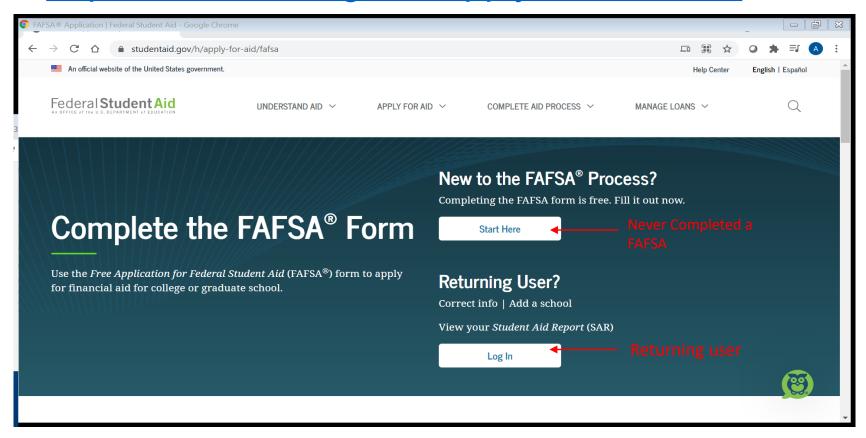
- Income information from 2019 is needed for the following:
  - Independent students
    - Student
    - Spouse (if married)
  - Dependent students
    - Student
    - Parent(s)

#### How and when to apply for Financial Aid

- Please have the following ready:
  - FSA ID and Password
    - Click here to create an FSA ID
  - Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
  - 2019 Federal income tax returns
  - 2019 W-2s
  - Other records of money earned in 2019
  - Bank statements and records of investments
  - Records of untaxed 2019 income
- If you are a dependent student, then you will also need the above information for your parent(s).

#### Logging in to the FAFSA

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

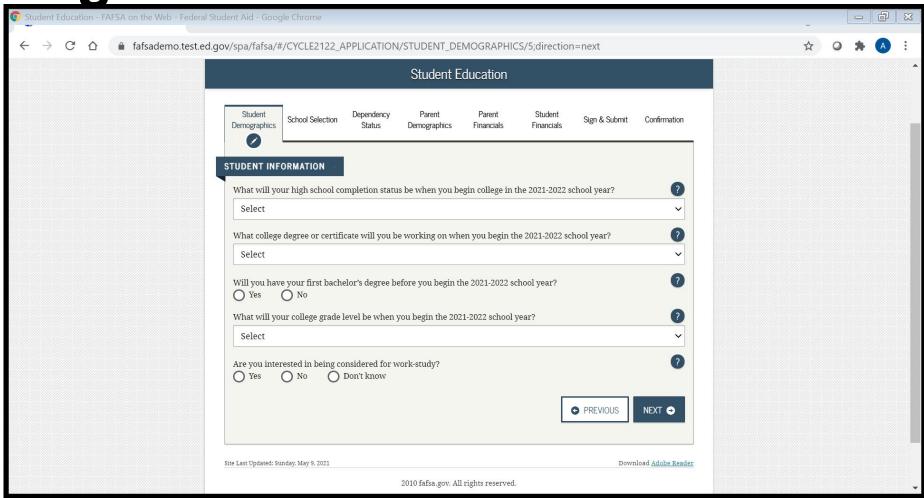


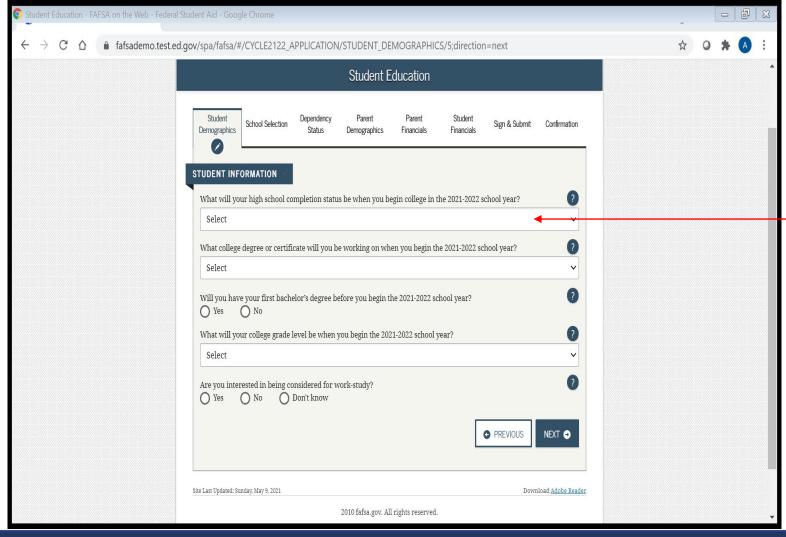
 The next several slides focus on different parts of the FAFSA in which some students make errors on.

Please review each slide for correct information.

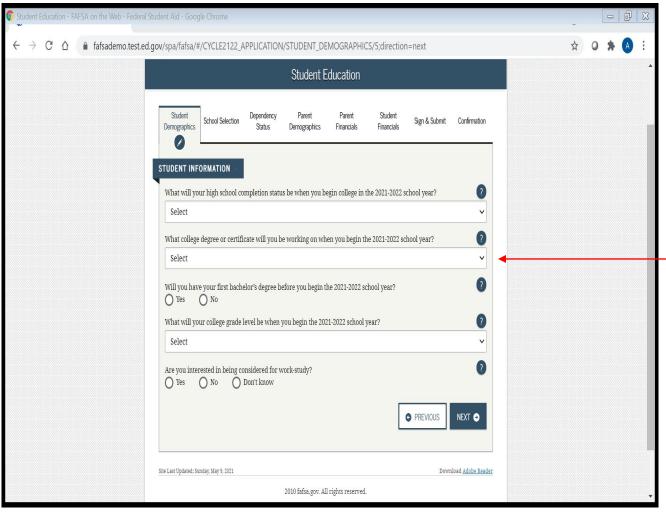


- Log in to the FAFSA with student's FSA ID and password
- Review student information is correct
- Please review
   Student
   education as
   students tend to make errors on this page.

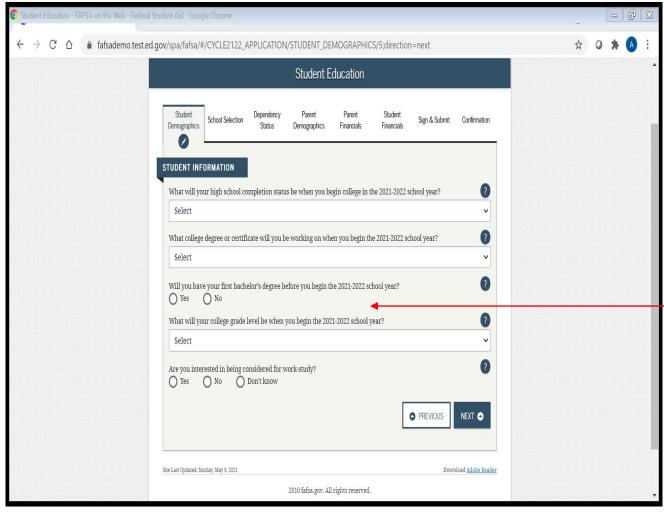




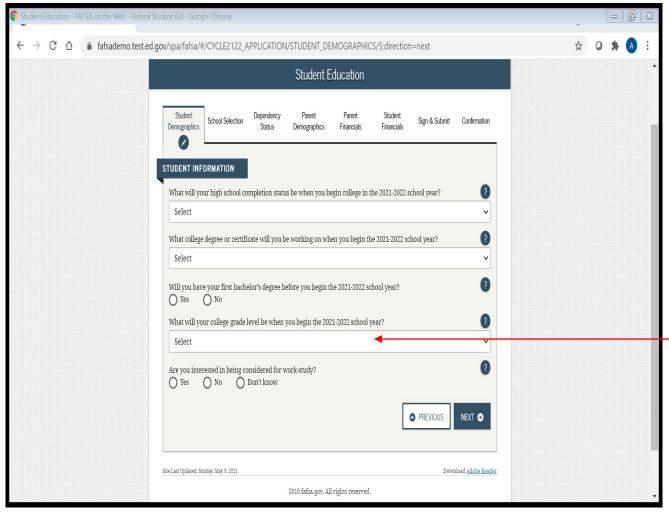
- HS completion
  - HS graduate
    - Graduated from high school or will be graduating in the upcoming school year
  - GED
    - Received HS equivalence
  - Home Schooled
    - Approved home studies



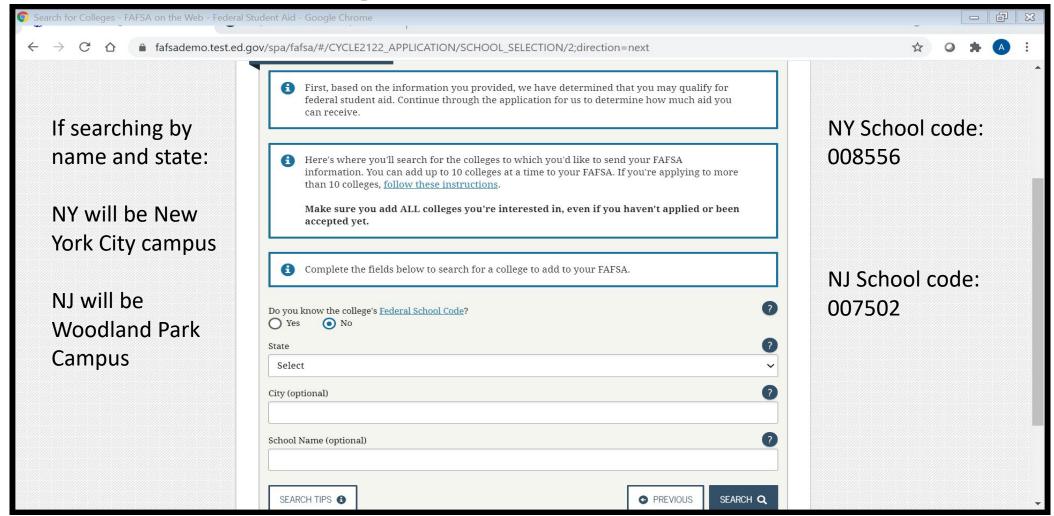
- College Degree
  - Certificate (less than 2 years)
  - Associate (2 year degree)
  - Bachelor (4 year degree)
  - College Professional (Masters)

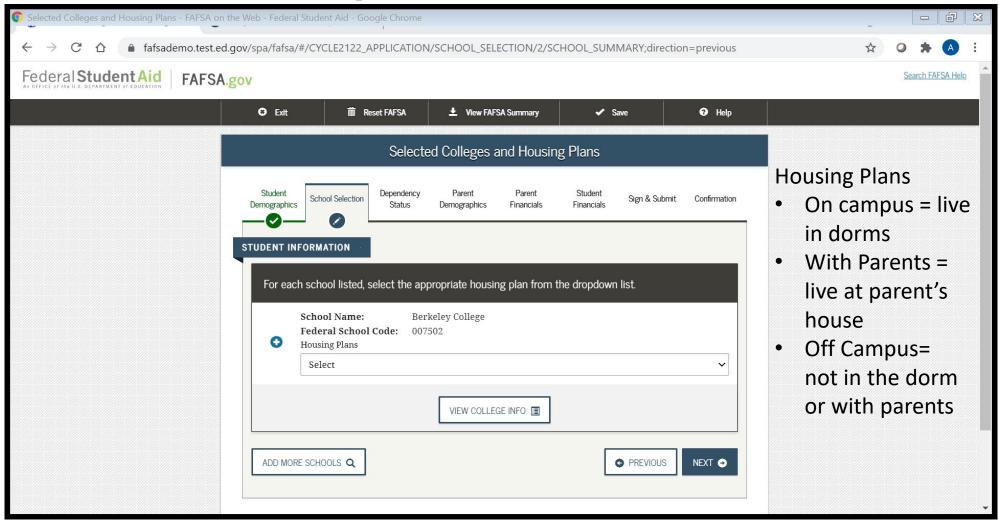


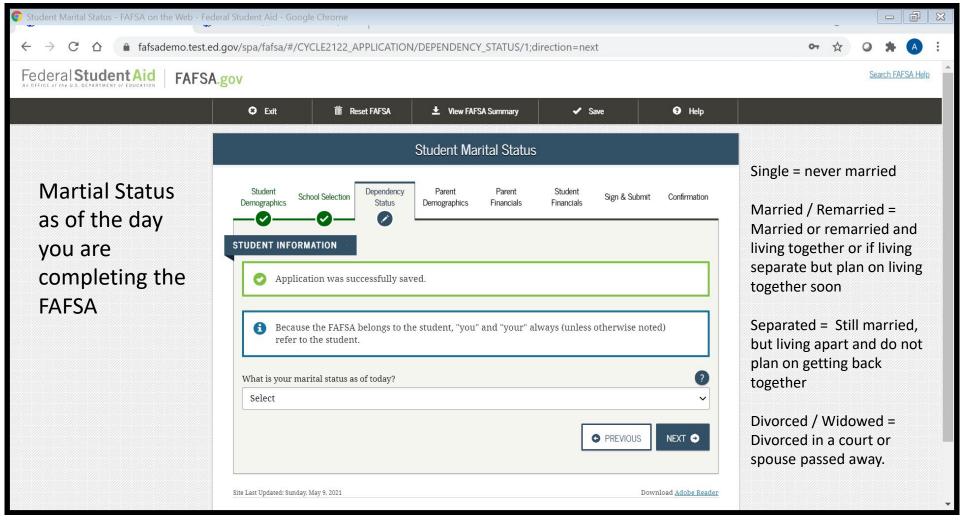
- Answer yes only if you have graduated with a Bachelor's degree previously.
- To answer yes is rare.

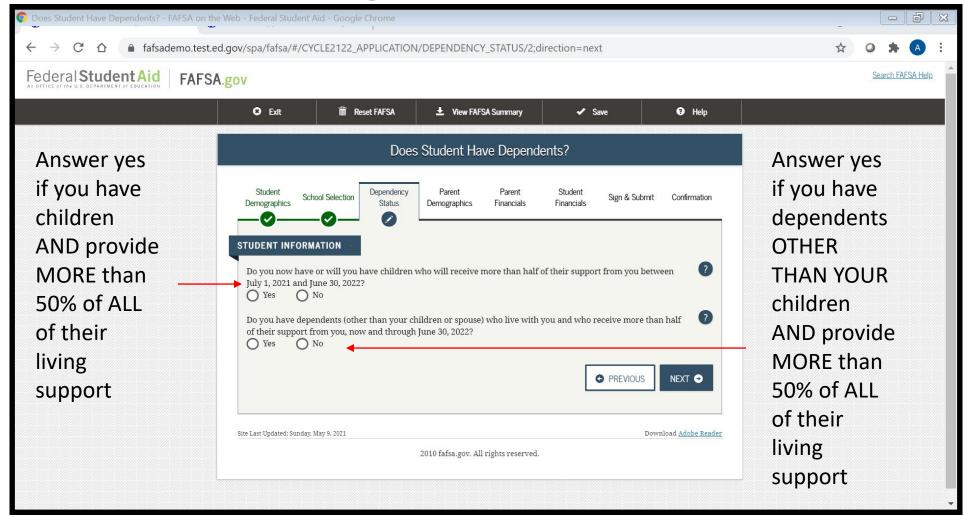


- Grade levels:
  - Never attended
  - 1<sup>st</sup> level
    - 1-29 credits earned
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> level
    - 30 59 credits
      earned
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> level
    - 60+ credits earned
  - Post Graduate
    - After graduating from a Bachelor Degree

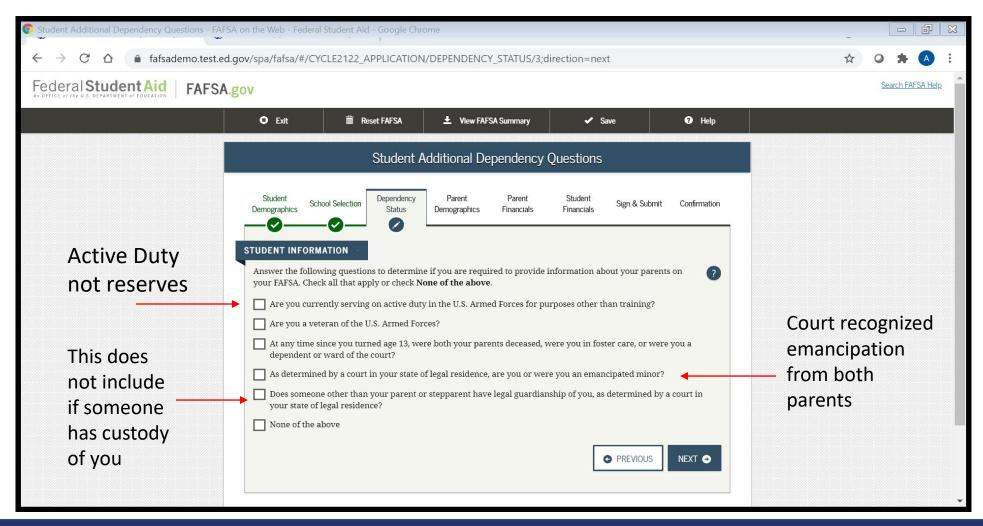




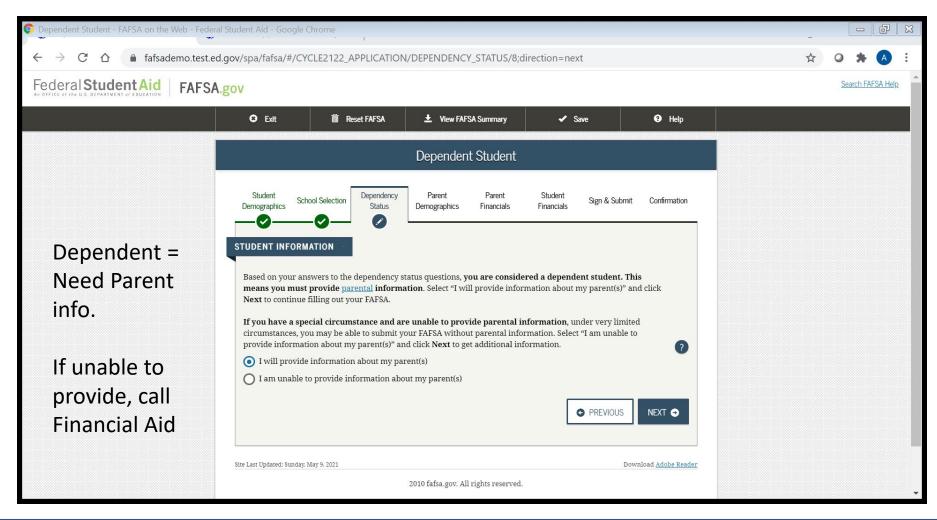




\*For students born after 1997



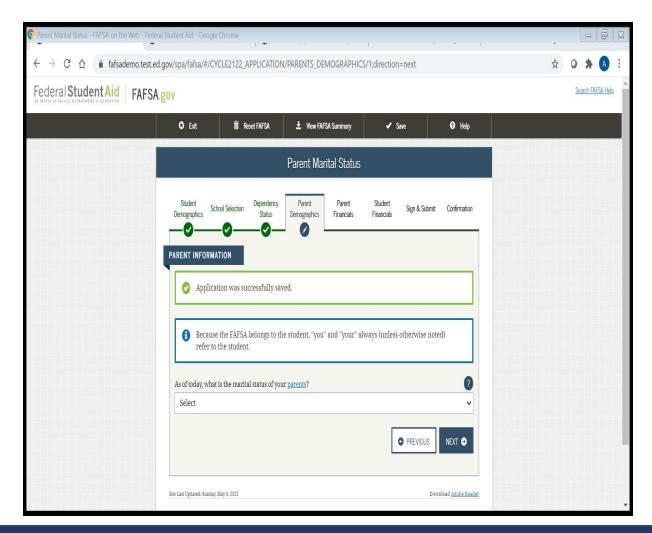
\*For students born after 1997



#### \*For students born after 1997

#### Parent Marital status:

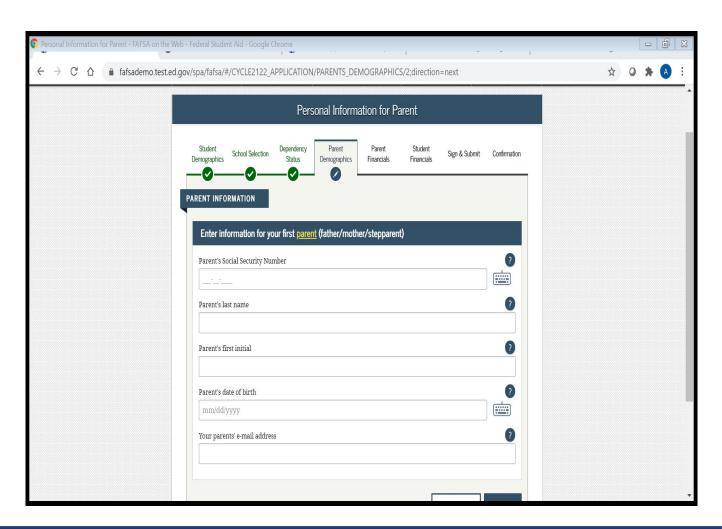
- Status as of the day the FAFSA is completed
  - Never married
  - Unmarried but both BIOLOGICAL parents live together in the same house
  - Married / Remarried
    - If both biological parents are married
    - If the parent you live with is married to someone else
  - Divorced / Separated
    - Divorced = court recognized and not remarried
    - Separated = living apart with no intention of living together
  - Widowed



\*For students born after 1997

#### Parent(s)' information to use:

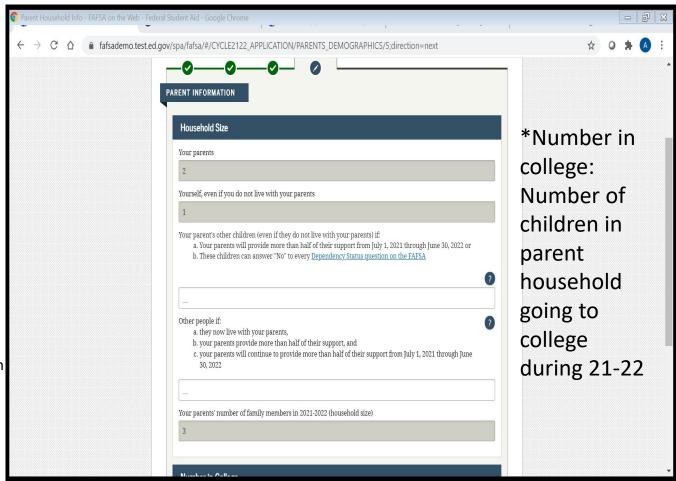
- Status as of the day the FAFSA is completed
  - Never married
    - Use parent info you live with
  - Unmarried but both BIOLOGICAL parents live together in the same house
    - Use both parents
  - Married / Remarried
    - Use both parents OR the parent you live with PLUS Step parent
  - Divorced / Separated
    - Use parent that provides most support
  - Widowed



#### \*For students born after 1997

#### Parent Household:

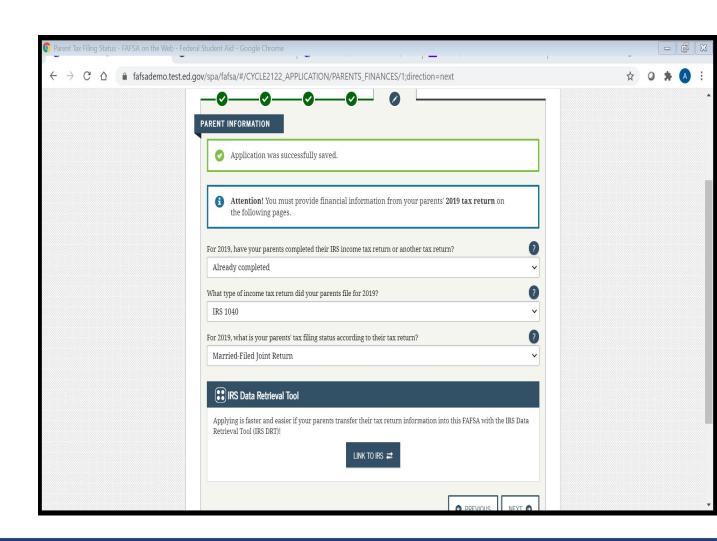
- Status as of the day the FAFSA is completed
  - Never married
    - 1 parent
  - Unmarried but both BIOLOGICAL parents live together in the same house
    - 2 parents
  - Married / Remarried
    - 2 parents
  - Divorced / Separated
    - 1 parent
  - Widowed
    - 1 parent
- Yourself
  - Always 1
- Parent's other children
  - Parent provides more than half of their support through the year
  - The children can answer "no" on every dependent question on the FAFSA
- Other people
  - They live with parent
  - Parent provides more than half of their support through the year



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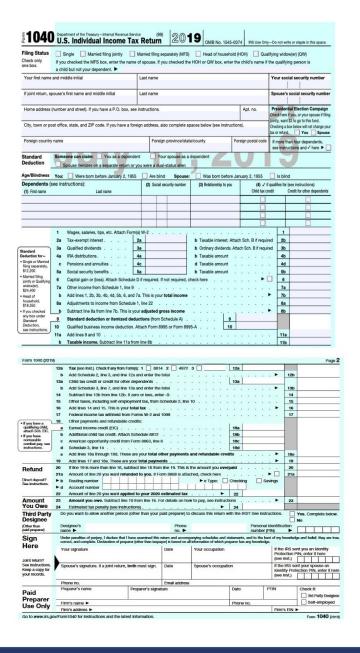
#### Parent Income:

- Link to IRS is the fastest and simplest way to complete the section
- Available for:
  - Married parents who filed: married filing joint
  - Single parents who filed single or head of household
  - Widowed who filed Qualifying Widow(er)
- What you need to link:
  - Correct filing status of 2019 income returns
  - Mailing address exactly as it appears on 2019 income tax returns



For those who cannot link from IRS, please use this slide for both parent and students who filed taxes:

- AGI found on 8b
- Wages found on line 1
  - Married use 2019 W-2s to properly split wages
- Income tax's 2019
  - 1040 line 14 minus Schedule 2's line 2
- Untaxed Income
  - Payments to tax deferred pension / retirement plan
    - 2019 W-2s Boxes 12a-12d codes
      D,E,F,G,H, and S. Do not include code
      DD.



#### Finishing the FAFSA

Sign and submit the FAFSA with FSA ID and Password

 Parents of dependent students sign the FAFSA with their own FSA ID and Password

#### **Contact Us**

**Phone Number:** 

973-200-1148

Email:

Studentfinance@berkeleycollege.edu

For reference please see the **Guide to Financial Aid** 

Always check your Berkeley College email for notifications from the Financial Aid Department.