

HOW DO YOU CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT?

IMPORTANT TIPS

- You and any other FAFSA contributor must create *their own* account usernames and passwords. (NOTE: A Social Security number can be associated with only one account.)
- Your individual account username and password acts as your electronic signature, you need to own them.
- You and any other FAFSA contributor should each use your own email address and mobile phone number when creating an account. (NOTE: A mobile phone or email address can be associated with only one account.)
- Parent and Spouse contributors are the only users allowed to create a username and password without a Social Security Number (SSN). A student without an SSN is *not eligible* to create a username, password, or complete a FAFSA.

GETTING STARTED

- Go to StudentAid.gov.
- Select the “Create Account” button.

An official website of the United States government. Help Center Submit a Complaint English | Español

Federal Student Aid AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾ Log In | Create Account 🔍

Get Ready for Student Loan Payments

Restarting Payments

Making Payments for the First Time

POPULAR TOPICS

- Apply for Aid Using the FAFSA® Form >
- Learn About Public Service Loan Forgiveness >
- Enroll in an Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) Plan >
- View Your Loan Information >
- Update on Student Loan Debt Relief >

Considering School
I'm thinking about going to college or a career school.

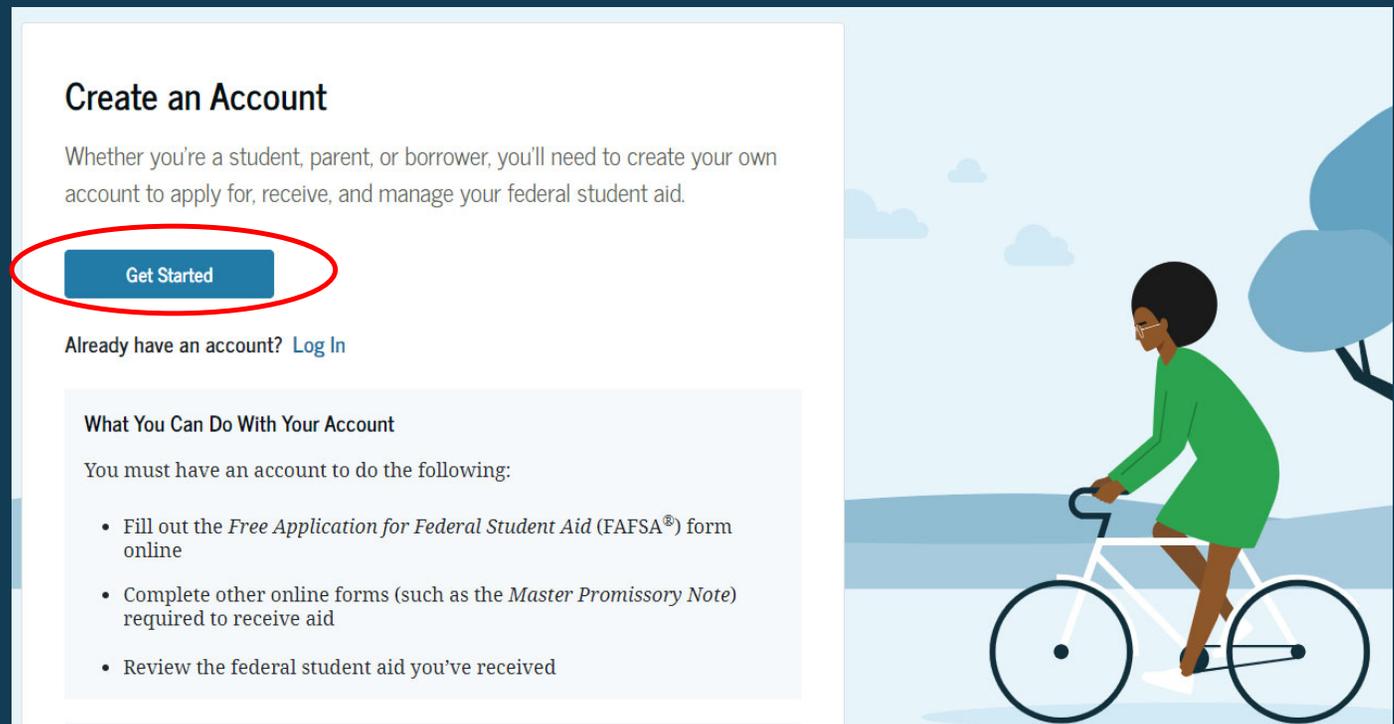
In School
I'm in the process of earning a degree or certificate.

Parent
I want to help my child pay for college.

In Repayment
I have loans I need to repay.

GETTING STARTED

On the “Create an Account” page, select the “Get Started” button.



Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to apply for, receive, and manage your federal student aid.

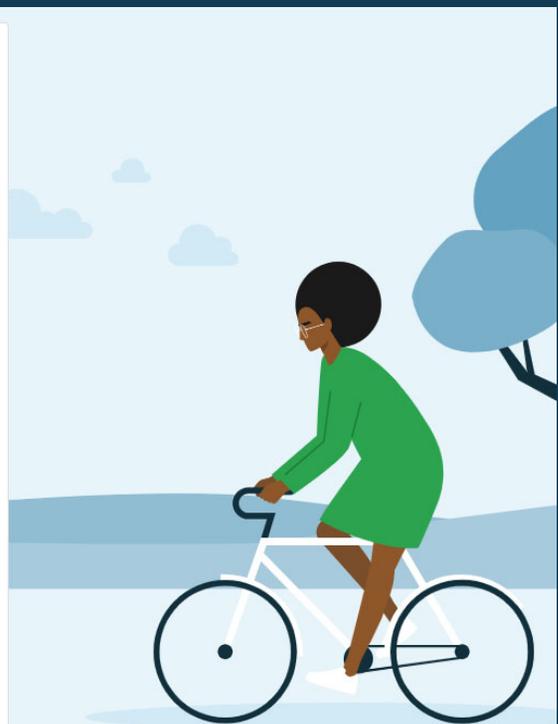
Get Started

Already have an account? [Log In](#)

What You Can Do With Your Account

You must have an account to do the following:

- Fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form online
- Complete other online forms (such as the *Master Promissory Note*) required to receive aid
- Review the federal student aid you've received



PROVIDE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

- If you have a Social Security number (SSN), you must provide it to create an account.
- If you don't have an SSN, you may check the "I don't have a Social Security number" box.

Create an Account

Step 1 of 7

Personal Information

I understand that I'll be required to certify that the information I provide to create an account is true and correct and that I'm the individual who I claim to be.

If I'm not the person I claim to be, I understand that I'm not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. If I provide false or misleading information, I understand that I may be subject to a fine, prison time, or both.

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

Date of Birth
Month: Day: Year:

Social Security Number

I don't have a Social Security number.

PROVIDE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION – NO SSN

- If you don't have a Social Security number and you check the "I don't have a Social Security number" box, this warning screen will pop up.
- Read it carefully and then select "Continue Without SSN"

The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account' page, Step 1 of 7, under 'Personal Information'. The form fields are: First Name (Jesse), Middle Initial (C), Last Name (Faden), Date of Birth (09/07/1991), and Social Security Number (empty). A checkbox labeled 'I don't have a Social Security Number' is checked. A warning dialog box is overlaid on the form, titled 'Warning: Your Account Will Be Limited Without SSN'. The dialog contains the following text: 'If you create an account without an SSN, you'll be limited in what you can do. You should only continue creating an account without an SSN if one of the following statements is true for you:'. Below this are two options, each with a green checkmark: 'I am a parent or spouse of a student who is applying for aid, and I do not have an SSN.' and 'I am a citizen of the Freely Associated States and need to complete the FAFSA® form online.' A note at the bottom of the dialog states: 'Note: Any previously completed FAFSA forms won't be linked to your account. You will still be able to access information from 2023-24 FAFSA form if you use your identifiers on the FAFSA roles page.' At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: 'Go Back' and 'Continue Without SSN'. The main form has 'Cancel' and 'Continue' buttons at the bottom. The footer contains links for 'Help Center', 'Contact Us', 'Site Feedback', 'About Us', 'Announcements', 'Data Center', 'Resources', and 'Forms Library'.

Create an Account

Step 1 of 7

Personal Information

I understand that I'll be required to certify that the information I provide to create an account is true and correct and that I'm the individual who I claim to be.

If I'm not the person I claim to be, I understand that I'm not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. I understand that I may be subject to penalties.

First Name
Jesse

Middle Initial
C

Last Name
Faden

Date of Birth
Month: 09 Day: 07 Year: 1991

Social Security Number

I don't have a Social Security Number

Warning: Your Account Will Be Limited Without SSN

If you create an account without an SSN, you'll be limited in what you can do. You should only continue creating an account without an SSN if one of the following statements is true for you:

- I am a parent or spouse of a student who is applying for aid, and I do not have an SSN.
- I am a citizen of the Freely Associated States and need to complete the FAFSA® form online.

Note: Any previously completed FAFSA forms won't be linked to your account. You will still be able to access information from 2023-24 FAFSA form if you use your identifiers on the FAFSA roles page.

Go Back Continue Without SSN

Cancel Continue

Help Center | Contact Us | Site Feedback

About Us | Announcements | Data Center | Resources | Forms Library

CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT

Username:

- Don't include personal info such as your name or date of birth.
- If you see a message "The username you entered is already in use," then someone has already used that username.

Password:

- Your password must be between 8 and 30 characters in length and must contain at least one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, and one number.
- Your password is case-sensitive.

An official website of the United States government. Help Center English | Español

Federal Student Aid UNDERSTAND AID APPLY FOR AID COMPLETE AID PROCESS MANAGE LOANS Log In | Create Account

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 2 of 7

Account Information

Because financial aid agreements are legally binding, you can't create an account for someone else, even another family member. Parents and students must create their own accounts.

Username
janedoe
✔ Username is available.

Email Address
Use an email address you will continue to have access to after you leave school.

Confirm Email Address

Password
Show Password
✔ Uppercase
✔ Lowercase
✔ Number
✔ 8+ characters

Confirm Password
Show Password

Previous Continue

PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION

The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account (FSA ID)' page on the Federal Student Aid website. The page is titled 'Step 3 of 7: Contact Information'. It contains several sections for data entry:

- Permanent Address:** Includes fields for Address (123 Main St), City (Laurel), State (MD Maryland), and ZIP Code (20723).
- Phone Number:** Includes fields for Mobile Phone Number and Confirm Mobile Phone Number, both with the value (202) 111-9482. There is also a link to 'Add Alternate Phone Number'.
- Mobile Phone Account Recovery:** A section with a checkbox selected for 'Yes, I would like to use my mobile phone for account recovery.' Below this is an information box stating: 'By selecting this option, you agree to receive text messages on your mobile phone and confirm you have reviewed and agree to FSA's Terms and Conditions. Message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Reply HELP for help or STOP to opt out.'

At the bottom of the form are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

- To sign up for mobile phone account access, provide a mobile phone number on this screen. This will help you gain access to your account if you are locked out, as well as allow your mobile phone to be used for two-step verification.
- Make sure your information is correct; any errors could result in delays in receiving financial aid (or in the repayment of your federal student loans).

SELECT COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

- You must select whether you prefer to receive required communications by email or postal mail.
- You can also opt in to receive informational emails and/or text messages regarding programs you may be eligible for.

The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account (FSA ID)' page on the Federal Student Aid website. It is Step 4 of 7. The page is titled 'Communication Preferences' and is divided into three sections: 'Required Communications', 'Informational Communications', and 'Preferred Language'. In the 'Required Communications' section, the user is informed that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and its federal student loan servicers will send required communications and documents. The user is asked to select how they want to receive these communications. The 'By email' option is selected and marked as 'Recommended'. A blue callout box explains that by selecting this option, the user agrees to receive required communications by email and confirm they have reviewed and agreed to FSA's Terms and Conditions. The 'By postal mail' option is also available. In the 'Informational Communications' section, the user is informed that ED and its federal student loan servicers want to feel confident about the financial aid and student loan process. The user is asked to select how they want to receive these communications. The 'By email' and 'By text message' options are both available. In the 'Preferred Language' section, the user is informed that their choice lets them know how they would like to view website content once logged in, and what to use for their communications. The 'Language' dropdown menu is set to 'English'. At the bottom of the page, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

As an official website of the United States government. Help Center English | Español

FederalStudentAid

UNDERSTAND AID APPLY FOR AID COMPLETE AID PROCESS MANAGE LOANS Log In | Create Account

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 4 of 7

Communication Preferences

Required Communications

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) and its federal student loan servicers will need to send you required communications and documents related to your federal student aid, such as student loan disclosures and interest statements.

I want to receive these communications:

By email *Recommended*

By postal mail

By selecting this option, you agree to receive required communications by email and confirm you have reviewed and agree to FSA's [Terms and Conditions](#).

Informational Communications

ED and its federal student loan servicers want you to feel confident about the financial aid and student loan process. To help with this, we will sometimes send out information about programs you may be eligible for, such as grant programs, student loan forgiveness programs, income-based repayment plans, and more.

I want to receive these communications:

By email

By text message

Preferred Language

Your choice lets us know how you would like to view website content once logged in, and what to use for your communications.

Language

English

Previous Continue

SELECT CHALLENGE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Federal Student Aid

UNDERSTAND AID | APPLY FOR AID | COMPLETE AID PROCESS | MANAGE LOANS | Log In | Create Account

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 5 of 7

Challenge Questions

Challenge questions and answers are used to retrieve your username or password if you forget them or if you need to unlock your account.

Note: Answers are not case-sensitive.

Challenge Question 1

Question: What was the name of your elementary school?

Answer: ***** [Show Answer](#)

Challenge Question 2

Question: What was the name of your first teacher?

Answer: ***** [Show Answer](#)

Challenge Question 3

Question: What is your mother's maiden name?

Answer: **** [Show Answer](#)

Challenge Question 4

Question: In what city did your parents meet?

Answer: **** [Show Answer](#)

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

- Answering your challenge questions is one way to unlock your account or retrieve your username or password.
- Your answer is not case-sensitive.

REVIEW INFO AND AGREE TO TERMS

- Review and confirm your information.
- If you need to make a correction, use the “Edit” button within that tile of information.
- Review and agree to FSA’s terms and conditions.

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Step 6 of 7

Confirm and Verify

Verify the information you provided for your account below. If there is an error, select “Edit” to correct the information.

Personal Information [Edit](#)

NAME
Jane Doe

DATE OF BIRTH
01/01/2001

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)
***-**-3818

Account Information [Edit](#)

USERNAME
janedoe

EMAIL ADDRESS
janedoe@gmail.com

PASSWORD

Contact Information [Edit](#)

PERMANENT ADDRESS
123 Main St
Laurel, MD 20723

MOBILE PHONE NUMBER
(202) 338-1291

MOBILE PHONE ACCOUNT RECOVERY
Yes

Communication Preferences [Edit](#)

REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS
Email

INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS
Email, Text

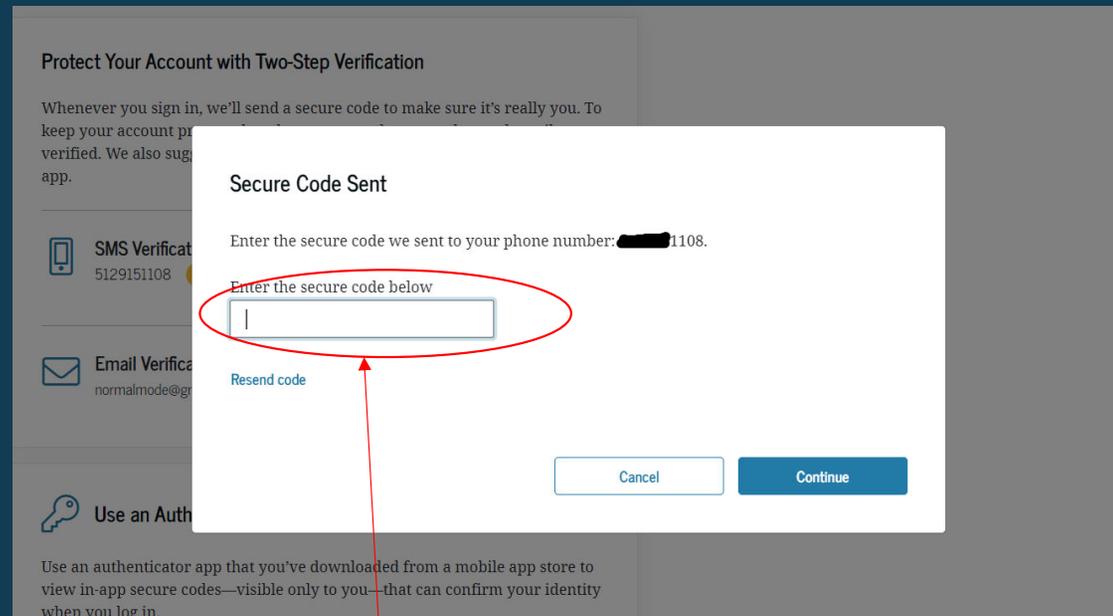
ENABLE TWO-STEP VERIFICATION

- You must verify your email address on the “Enable Two-Step Verification” page.
- Select the “Verify” button to verify your email address or mobile phone number.
- You are also encouraged to set up an authenticator app to use for two-step verification. This is the most secure option for logging in.

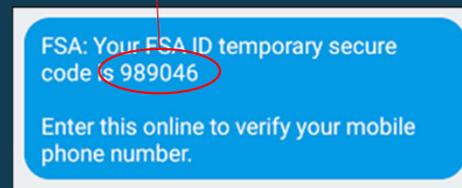
The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account (FSA ID)' page on the Federal Student Aid website. The page is titled 'Enable Two-Step Verification' and is Step 7 of 7. It features a progress bar at the top and a navigation menu with options: UNDERSTAND AID, APPLY FOR AID, COMPLETE AID PROCESS, and MANAGE LOANS. The main content area is titled 'Protect Your Account with Two-Step Verification' and includes the following text: 'Whenever you sign in, we'll send a secure code to make sure it's really you. To keep your account protected, make sure your phone number and email are verified. We also suggest setting up verification using a secure authenticator app.' Below this text are three verification options, each with a 'Verify' button: 1. SMS Verification: Shows a mobile phone icon, a partially redacted phone number ending in '1108', and a yellow 'Not Verified' status indicator. 2. Email Verification: Shows an email icon, a partially redacted email address ending in '@gmail.com', and a yellow 'Not Verified' status indicator. 3. Use an Authenticator App (Most Secure Option): Includes a key icon, a brief explanation of the app, a 'Learn More' link, and a 'Set Up an Authenticator App' button. At the bottom of the page are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

VERIFY YOUR MOBILE PHONE NUMBER

- After selecting the “Verify” button next to your phone number, you will be sent a text message with a six-digit numerical secure code.
- Enter your secure code in the “Enter the secure code below” modal and select “Continue”.
- Once you verify your mobile phone number, you can use it to log in, unlock your account, retrieve your username, or reset your password.
- NOTE: You MUST verify your information before continuing.

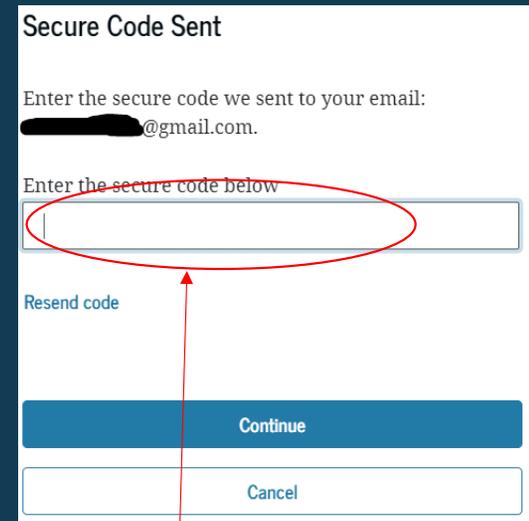


Text Message With Your Secure Code



VERIFY YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

- After selecting the “Verify” button next to your email address, you will be sent an email with the six-digit numerical secure code.
- Enter your secure code in the “Verify Your Email Address” modal and select “Continue”.
- Once you verify your email, you can use it to log in, unlock your account, retrieve your username, or reset your password.
- NOTE: You MUST verify your information before continuing.



Secure Code Sent

Enter the secure code we sent to your email:
[redacted]@gmail.com.

Enter the secure code below

Resend code

Continue

Cancel

A red oval highlights the input field for the secure code, and a red arrow points from this field down to the code '626271' in the email screenshot below.

Email With Your Secure Code

Action Required - Verify Your FSA ID Email Address

[redacted]@gmail.com,

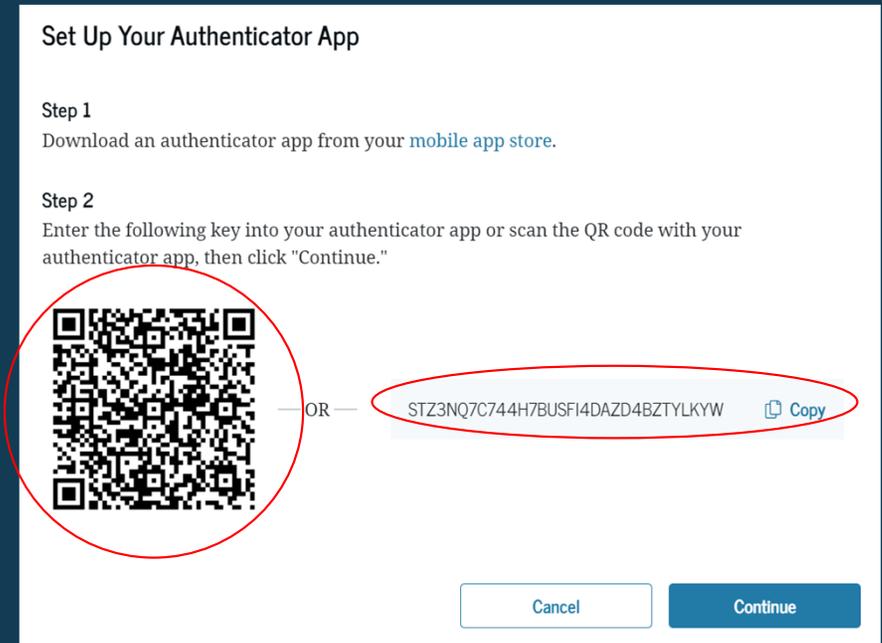
Complete the email verification process by entering the following number into the “Secure Code” field in your browser:

626271

This code will expire in 30 minutes.

SET UP AN AUTHENTICATOR APP

- After selecting “Set up an Authenticator App”, you will see a pop-up window.
- You will need to download a third-party authenticator app on your mobile phone.
- Once you’ve downloaded the authenticator app, use it to scan the QR code or type in the randomized authenticator code to pair your app with your account.



SET UP AN AUTHENTICATOR APP

- After selecting “Continue” you will see the “Enter the Code from Your App” window.
- Enter the code provided by your authenticator app and select “Finish”.
- Once you’ve verified your authenticator app, you can now use it to log in, unlock your account, retrieve your username, or reset your password.

Enter the Code from Your App

Step 3
Complete setup by entering the secure code provided by your authenticator app.

Enter the secure code below

[Help me set up this app](#)

[Previous](#) [Finish](#)

Enter The Authenticator App Code

ID VERIFICATION – NO SSN

- If you are creating your account without a Social Security number, you must answer the knowledge-based questions on this screen in order to verify your identity.
- Select the correct answer for each question based on your personal information.
- Then select “Submit” to complete your new account creation.

Create an Account

Step 7 of 7

Identity Verification

One last step! We're required to ask additional questions when you don't have a Social Security number (SSN) to verify your identity. You must answer these to finish creating your account.

The results of the identity verification will be displayed on the next page—note that you won't be able to return to this page to answer these questions again.

Which of the following is the street name of your most recent previous address?

- Florida Ave NW
- Sesame Street
- Langston Pkwy
- None of the above

Which of these phone numbers have you ever used previously?

- (316) 775-5132
- (970) 680-6986
- (128) 791-0911
- None of the above

Which of the following is a current or previous employer?

- Adidas
- The Walt Disney Company
- Noida
- None of the above

Which of the following people lives or owns property in Tafuna?

- Ansiya Jayavant
- Leo Knight
- Justine Marshall
- None of the above

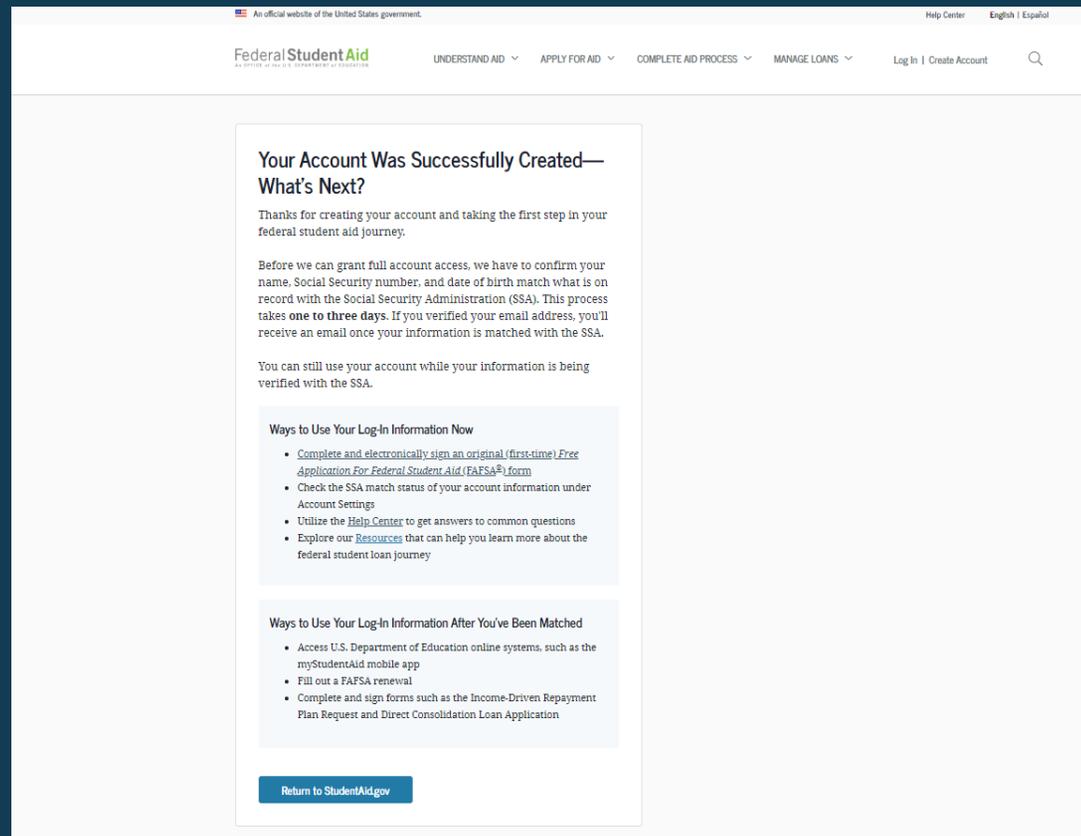
[Previous](#) [Submit](#)

[Help Center](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Site Feedback](#) [About Us](#) | [Announcements](#) | [Data Center](#) | [Resources](#) | [Forms Library](#)

YOUR ACCOUNT IS CREATED!

Using Your Account Username and Password

- A contributor can immediately use their account username and password to sign an original (first-time) FAFSA form as soon as the knowledge-based questionnaire is successfully completed and verified.
- If they provided an email address, they'll receive a confirmation email.



The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the text "An official website of the United States government." on the left, "Federal Student Aid" in the center, and "Help Center" and "English | Español" on the right. Below the navigation bar, there are several menu items: "UNDERSTAND AID", "APPLY FOR AID", "COMPLETE AID PROCESS", and "MANAGE LOANS". On the far right of the navigation bar, there are links for "Log In | Create Account" and a search icon.

The main content area features a white box with the following text:

Your Account Was Successfully Created—What's Next?

Thanks for creating your account and taking the first step in your federal student aid journey.

Before we can grant full account access, we have to confirm your name, Social Security number, and date of birth match what is on record with the Social Security Administration (SSA). This process takes **one to three days**. If you verified your email address, you'll receive an email once your information is matched with the SSA.

You can still use your account while your information is being verified with the SSA.

Ways to Use Your Log-In Information Now

- [Complete and electronically sign an original \(first-time\) Free Application For Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA®\) form](#)
- Check the SSA match status of your account information under Account Settings
- Utilize the [Help Center](#) to get answers to common questions
- Explore our [Resources](#) that can help you learn more about the federal student loan journey

Ways to Use Your Log-In Information After You've Been Matched

- Access U.S. Department of Education online systems, such as the myStudentAid mobile app
- Fill out a FAFSA renewal
- Complete and sign forms such as the Income-Driven Repayment Plan Request and Direct Consolidation Loan Application

At the bottom of the white box, there is a blue button that says "Return to StudentAid.gov".

YOUR ACCOUNT REQUIRES ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION

- If a contributor failed the knowledge-based questionnaire process, they will be informed that FSA was unable to verify their information and that they must contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) at 1-800-433-3243.
- Note: The individual will also receive an email from FSA informing them to call FSAIC for next steps and verify their identity.
- Once the individual contacts FSAIC, FSA will create a case number and send them an email, which will include guidance on how to submit:
 1. Copies of unexpired acceptable documentation to verify their identity.
 2. An attestation and validation of identity form along with their documentation, available on <https://studentaid.gov/forms-library>. Both documents must be emailed to IDVerification@ed.gov

Acceptable Documents to Establish an Individual's Identity:

Provide one (1) of the following documents to establish identity:

- U.S. Driver's License
- U.S. State/City Identification Card
- Foreign Passport

or

One (1) set of documents below to establish identity:

- Municipal Identification Cards + utility bill
- Community ID + utility bill
- Consular Identification Cards/Matricula Consular + utility bill

YOUR ACCOUNT REQUIRES ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION

- FSA will review an individual's submitted documentation and signed attestation form to ensure it is acceptable and matches the account information provided during the Create Account process.
- If there is a successful match, the Department will finalize the account creation. The individual will receive an email indicating their identity has been verified and that they may now use their account username and password on the FAFSA.