KC Scholars Eligibility Workshop

2025 Application Cycle

https://bit.ly/4lsr5c4

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A chance to learn. The power to earn.
SCHOLARS FIRST

Agenda

Scholarships Overview

Create KC Scholars Application Account

Complete Eligibility Section

Traditional Scholarship (11th Graders)

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

- Up to $5,000/semester paid directly to the college up to a bachelor's degree or 6-years of scholarship support.
- Maintain GPA and graduate requirements in senior year of high school.
- Advising support in high school and college.
- Enroll full-time in college in Fall 2027.

APPLICATION CYCLE

- January 8 - February 27 at 5:00 p.m. CST.
- Award notification on May 5, 2026 via email and paper mail.

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Traditional Scholarship (11th Graders)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Current 11th grader.
- Live in or be home-schooled or attend public, charter or private school in 6 eligible counties: Wyandotte & Johnson (KS) - Cass, Clay, Jackson & Platte (MO).
- 2.5 cumulative unweighted high school GPA or at least a 16 on the ACT (800 on SAT).
- Income eligible (12,000 or less Student Aid Index on Federal Student Aid (FSA) Estimator). More information on FSA Estimator the next slide
- US Citizenship/Residency is not required.

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Let's Create a KC Scholars Application Account!

How to create a KC Scholars Account

1. Go to myportal.kcscholars.org/s/

2. Click on **Create Your Account**

3. Create your account

    - Use your own personal email

    - "Contact site administrator" message: return to myportal.kcscholars.org/s/, click **Log in,** then **Reset Password**. Follow the reset password instructions. This process will still create your account.

4. Check your email to confirm your KC Scholars Account

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Let's begin the Eligibility Section!

Eligibility Section

This section can be completed before the scholarship applications are open. To complete the eligibility section:

1. Log in to your KC Scholars Application Account
2. Click **Apply/Resume**
3. Select **Traditional Scholarship Application – 2026- 11th Graders** using the drop-down menu, then click **Next**
4. Review the page to confirm the **Scholarship Program Type** is **Traditional Scholarship Application**, then click **Create Application**
5. PAUSE: Before we click **start**, we will determine your SAI. Once you determine your SAI, make sure to download a PDF of your results and start the eligibility section.

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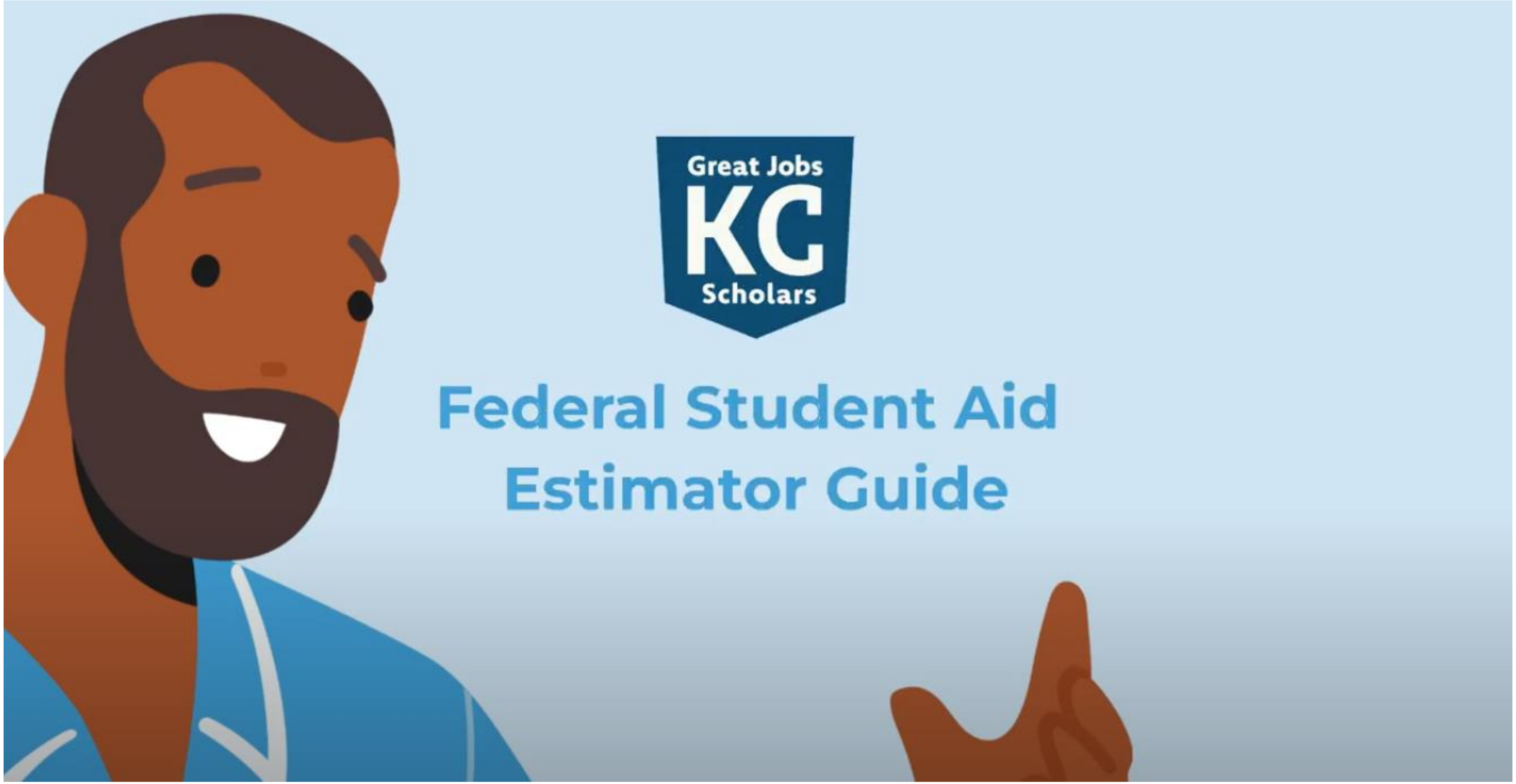
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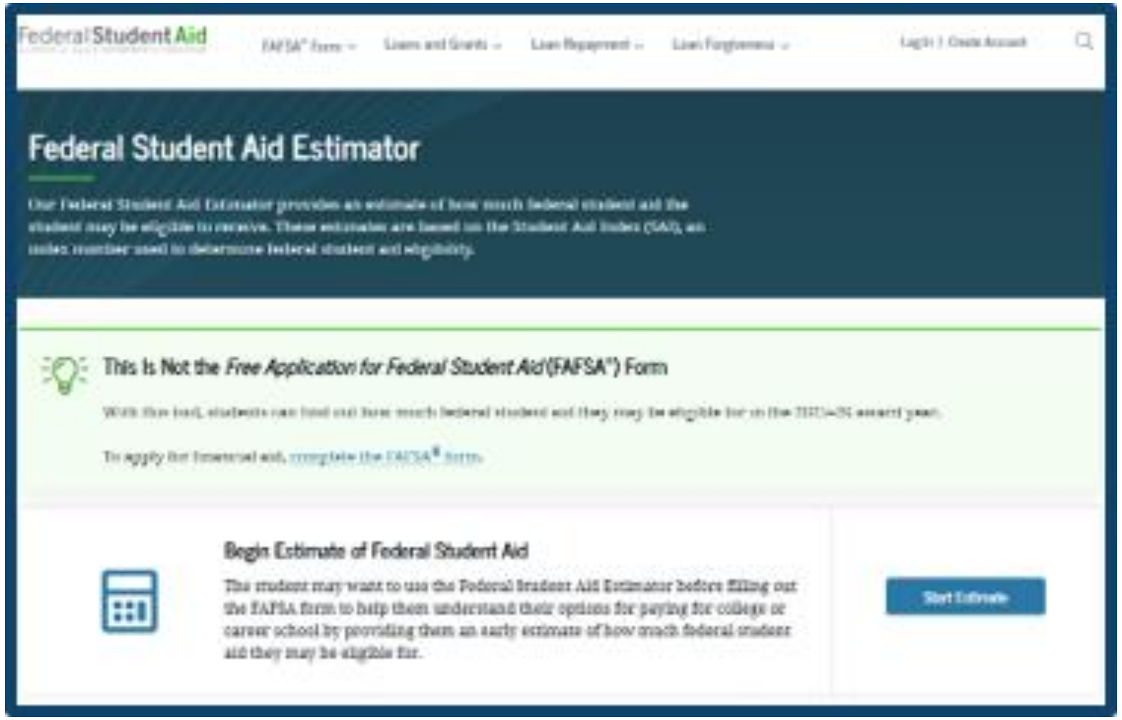
Scholars
Federal Student Aid
Estimator Guide

What is the Federal Student Aid (FSA) Estimator? (Link)

- A free financial aid calculation that provides an early estimate of a student's eligibility for federal student aid.
- Assists families in planning for college!



How and Why does KC Scholars Use the FSA Estimator?

- The **Student Aid Index (SAI)** calculated on the Federal Student Aid Estimator helps determine low to modest income applicants.

- The SAI must be 12,000 or less to be eligible to apply for the **Traditional** and **Adult Learner** scholarships.

- Applicants are required to upload the downloaded PDF of estimated SAI to their application.

- This step is completed first within the application (Eligibility) to ensure eligibility is met by applicants before proceeding.

What items are needed to fill out the FSA Estimator?

Student Financial Information

- A copy of 2024 tax returns.
  - *If you did not file taxes, you are not required to provide personal financial information.*
- Includes adjusted gross income (AGI), total assets, and annual child support received.
- AGI is found on IRS Form 1040.
- Assests include money in cash, savings, and checking's account.

Students' Spouses' Financial Information

- If the student is independent, their household financials—including their spouse's financials if the student is married—are needed, such as their tax filing status, household income, total assets, and annual child support received.

Students' Parents' Financial Information

- If you are a dependent student, you will need to provide parents' financial information. This Includes adjusted gross income (AGI),total assets, and annual child support received.
- A copy of 2024 tax returns.
  - *If parents were not required to file taxes, you do not need to provide parent's financial information.*
- Parent's AGI is found on IRS Form 1040 from 2024 tax information.
- Assests include money in cash, savings, and checking's account.

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Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide

https://greatjobskc.org/info/scholarships/federal-student-aid-estimator-guide.pdf

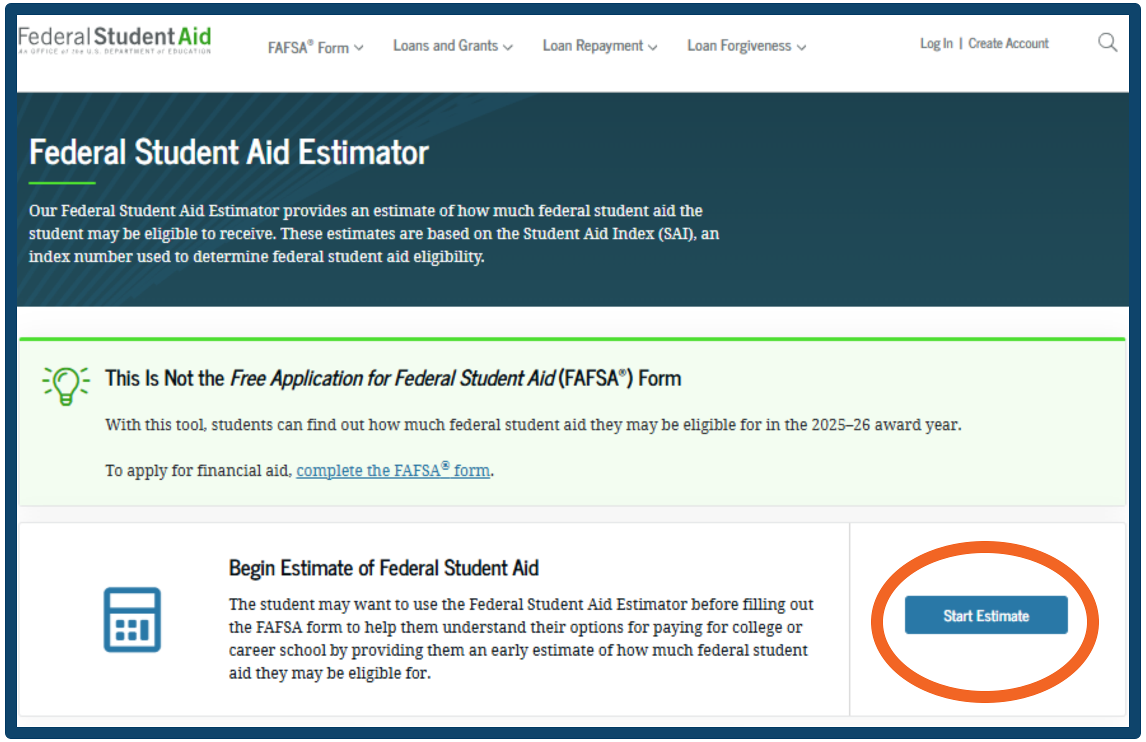
You can find the Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide on the Scholarship Application Resources page on our website!

Additional information on:

- Independent vs. Dependent.
- Parent(s) definition.
- Unusual circumstance assistance.
- Citizenship status.
- Helpful FAFSA resources linked.

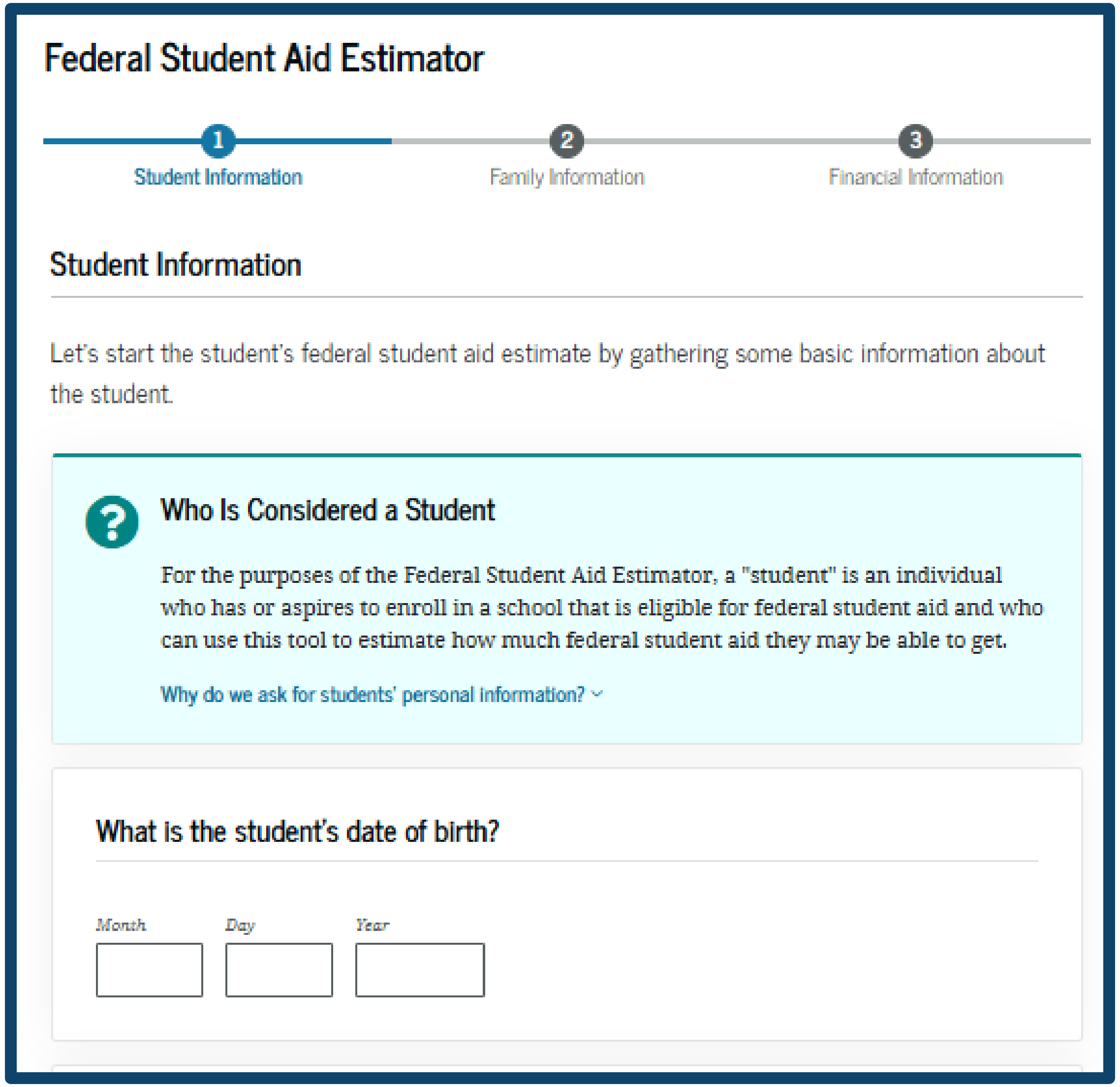
Home Page

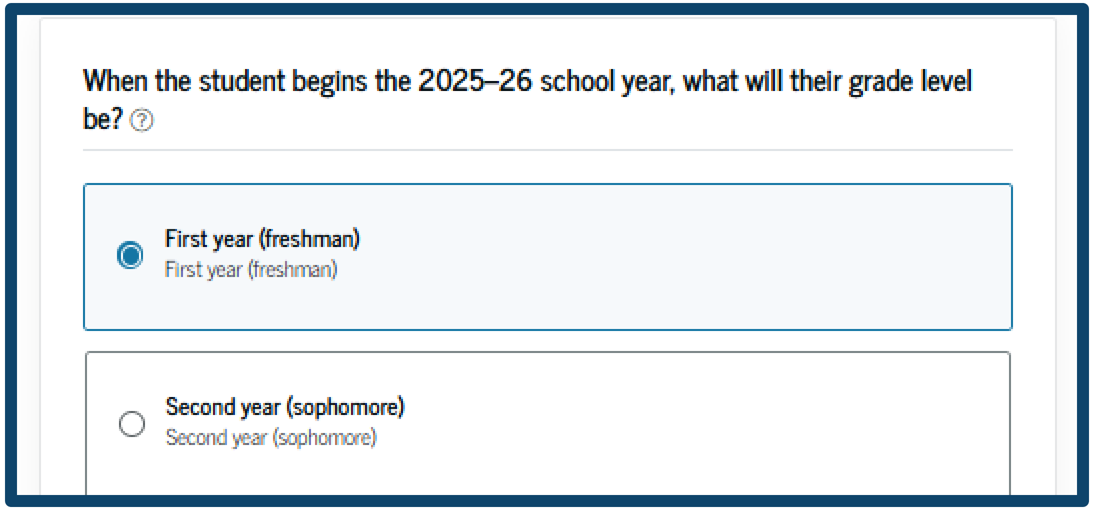
- Visit https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/ to begin and click "Start Estimate".
- Refer to the "Help" link on each page or (?) next to each question if you need more information.
- Questions will change on the screen according to answers provided.



Workshop Step 1: Student Information

- Enter **STUDENT** information.
- Answer all questions.
- All applicants should select "First year (freshmen)."

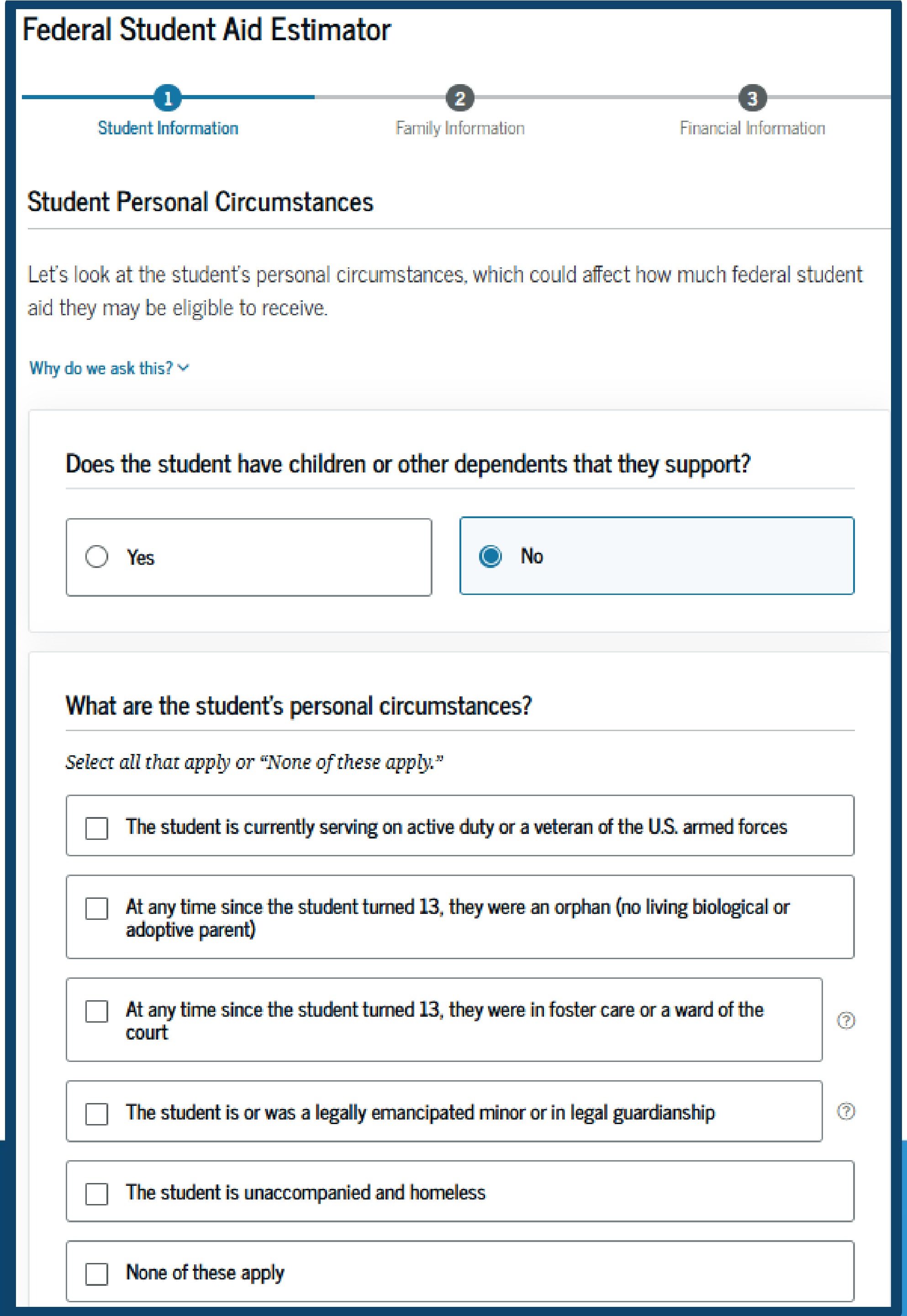




Workshop Step 2: Student Personal Circumstances

- These questions will help determine your [dependency status](#) for federal student aid purposes.
- Answer "**No**" to every question: **Dependent** and must provide parent information.
- Answer "**Yes**" to one or more questions: **Independent** and will not be required to provide parent information. If you are **independent** student, you will skip to step 4.

**If you have any questions on the personal circumstance section or dependency status, please feel free to reach out to one of us and we will come by and assist. You can also refer to slide 6 of the [Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide](#) for additional information*



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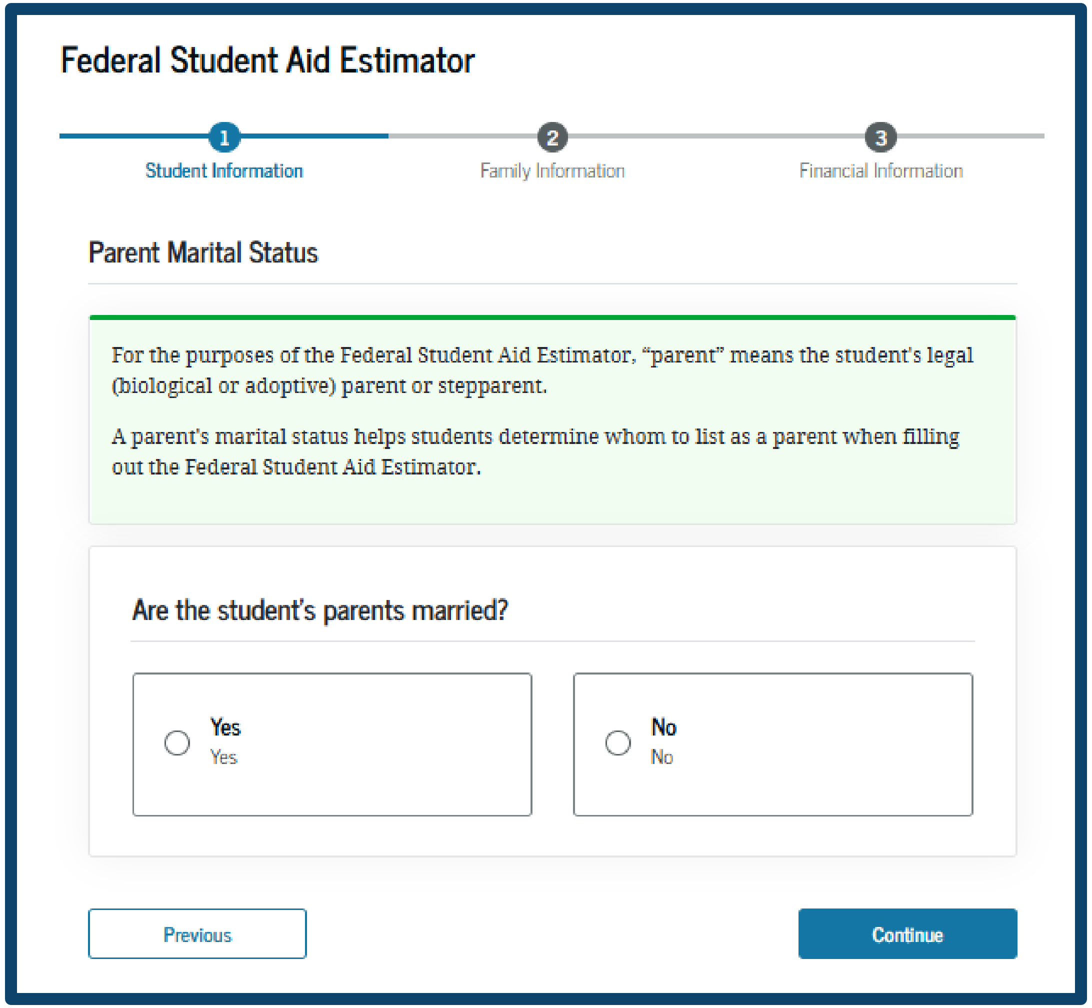
Workshop Step 3: Parent Information

For a **DEPENDENT** student:

- This section will ask questions about you and your parent's background.
- These questions help determine which parent(s) information you will provide when filling out the rest of the Federal Student Aid Estimator.
- Answer the questions as they populate until you receive a **blue box** explaining which parent(s) information to provide.

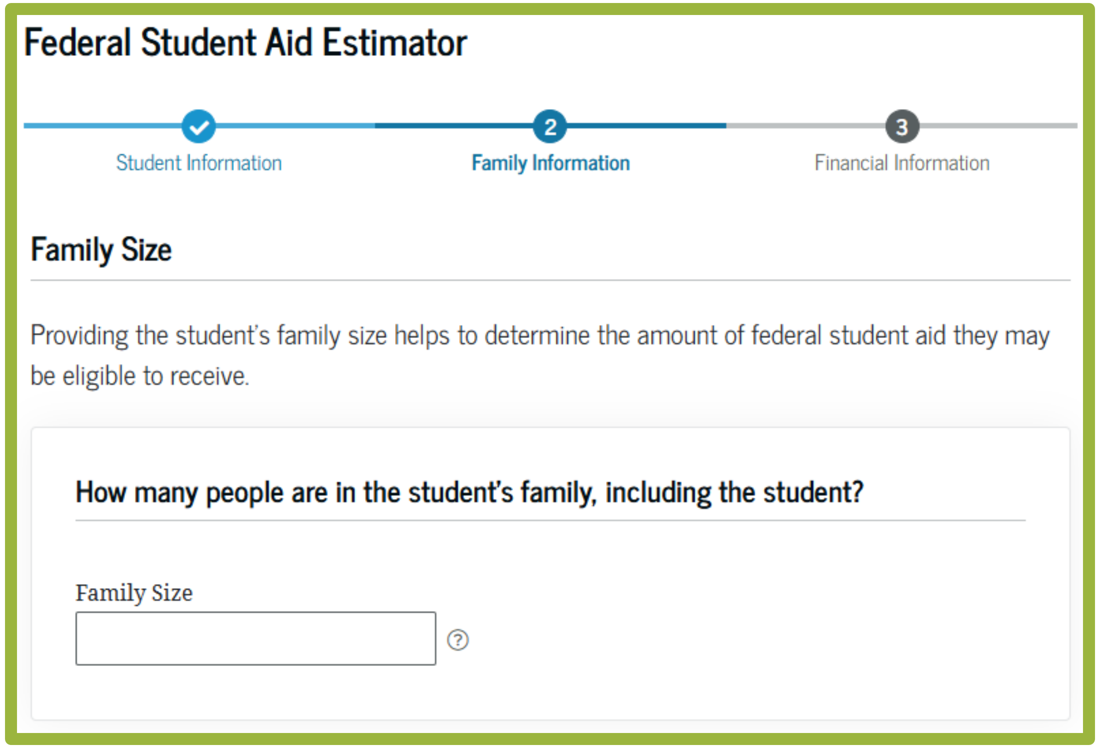
**If you have any questions on reporting parent information please feel free to reach out to one of us and we will come by and assist. You can also refer to Slide 7-8 on the FSA Estimator Guide for additional information.*



Workshop Step 4: Family Information

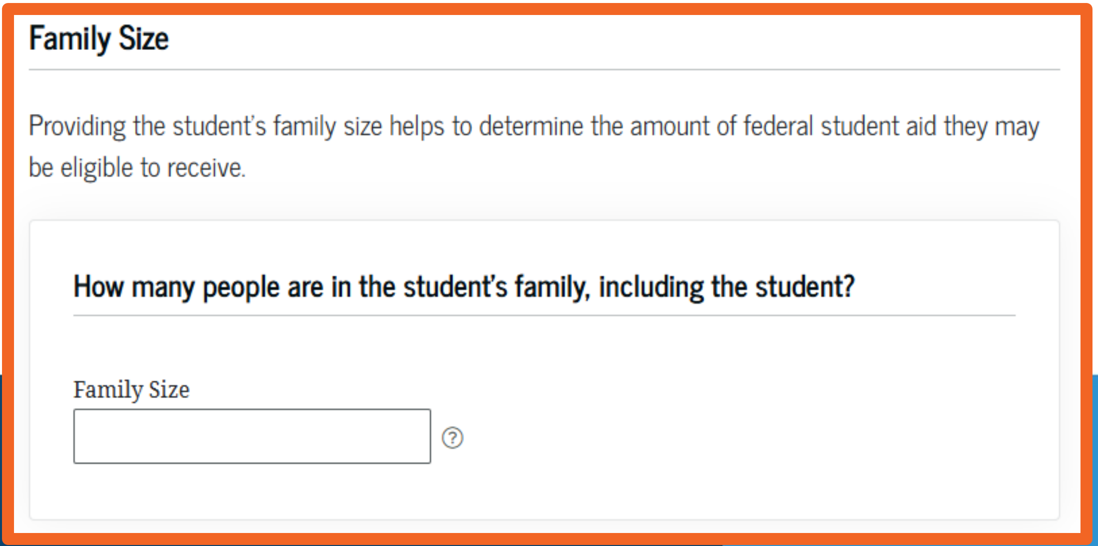
For a DEPENDENT student:

- Family Size includes yourself, parents, and the number of people who live with you and receive more than half of their support from your parent(s).



For an INDEPENDENT student:

- Family Size includes yourself, parents, and the number of people who live with you and receive more than half of their support from your parent(s).
- After Step 4 you will skip to step 6

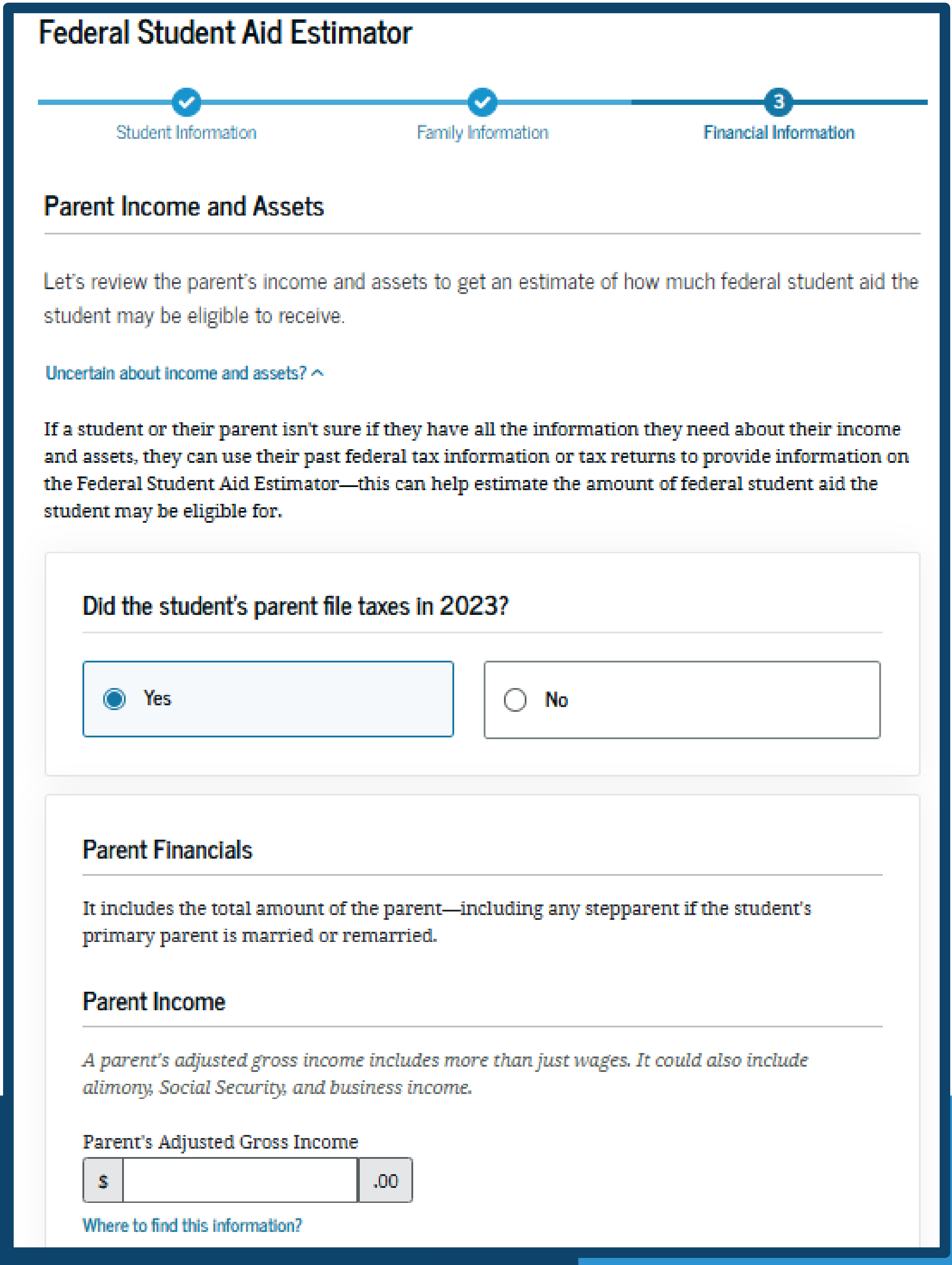


Workshop Step 5: Financial Information (Family)

For a DEPENDENT student:

Parent Income and Assets

- The first question you will respond to is about your parent's tax filing status.
  - *If parents were not required to file taxes, you do not need to provide parent's financial information.*
- Refer to the **blue subtext** to determine how to answer each question about you and your parent's finances.
- **Parent Income:** You will enter the total amount of adjusted gross income. This can be found on line 11 of IRS Form 1040.
- **Parent Assets:** Parent's total cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include net worth of businesses and investments if any.

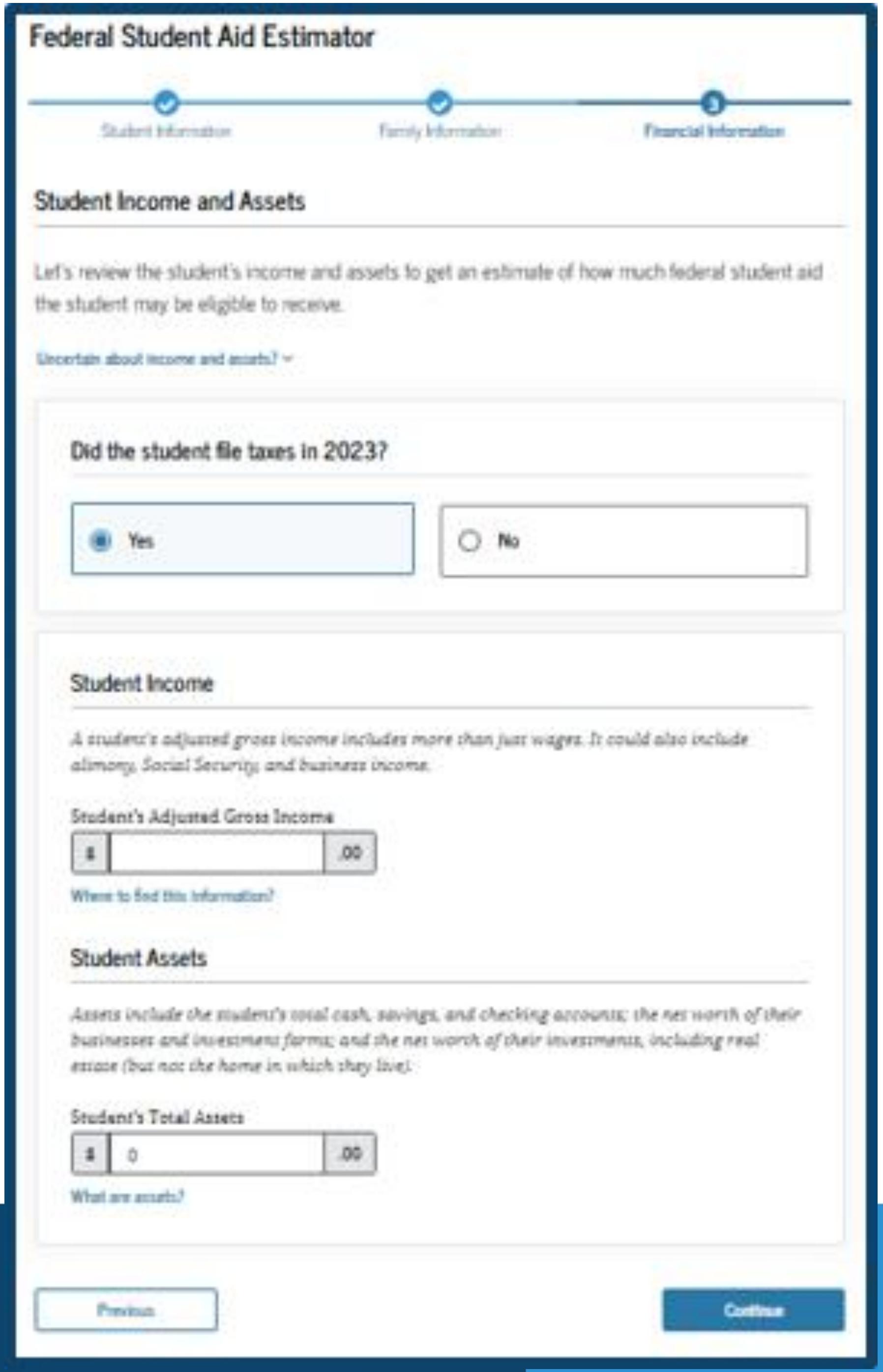


Workshop Step 6:
Financial Information (Student)

For a DEPENDENT student:

Student Income and Assets

- Please complete the finance questions based on your 2024 tax information.
  - *If you did not file taxes, select "No" and you will not be required to provide financial information.*
- Refer to the blue subtext to determine how to answer each question about you and your parent's finances.

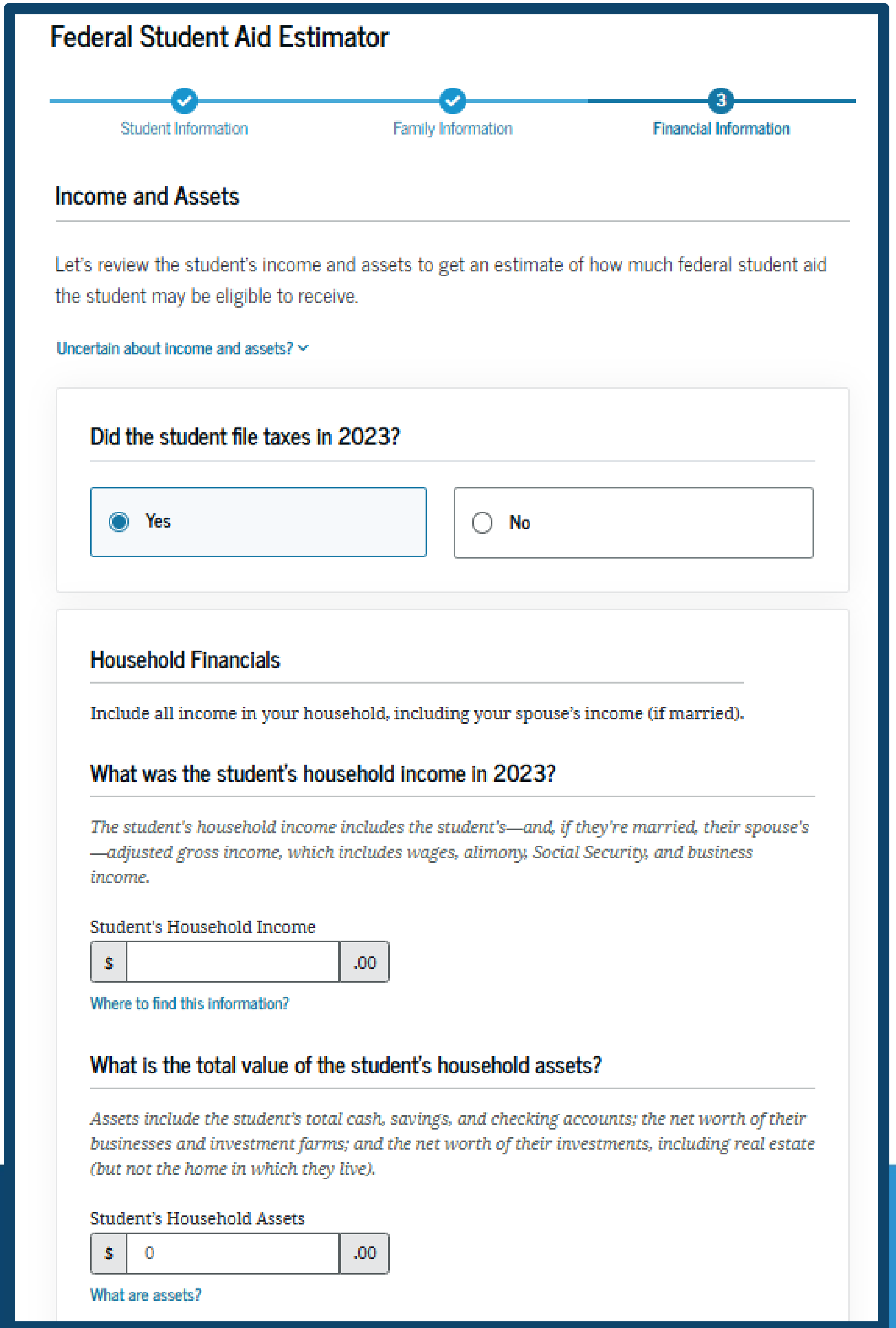


Workshop Step 6: Financial Information (Student)

For an INDEPENDENT student:

Income and Assets

- The first question you will respond to is about your (and spouse's, if married) tax filing status.
- Refer to the blue subtext to determine how to answer each question about you and your spouse's finances.
- **Student's Income:** You will enter the total amount of adjusted gross income. This can be found on line 11 of IRS Form 1040
- **Student's Assets:** Your total cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include net worth of businesses and investments if any.


Federal Student Aid Estimator

Student Information — Family Information — 3 Financial Information

Income and Assets

Let's review the student's income and assets to get an estimate of how much federal student aid the student may be eligible to receive.

Uncertain about income and assets?

Did the student file taxes in 2023?

Yes | No

Household Financials

Include all income in your household, including your spouse's income (if married).

What was the student's household income in 2023?

The student's household income includes the student's—and, if they're married, their spouse's—adjusted gross income, which includes wages, alimony, Social Security, and business income.

Student's Household Income

$ .00

Where to find this information?

What is the total value of the student's household assets?

Assets include the student's total cash, savings, and checking accounts; the net worth of their businesses and investment farms; and the net worth of their investments, including real estate (but not the home in which they live).

Student's Household Assets

$ 0 .00

What are assets?

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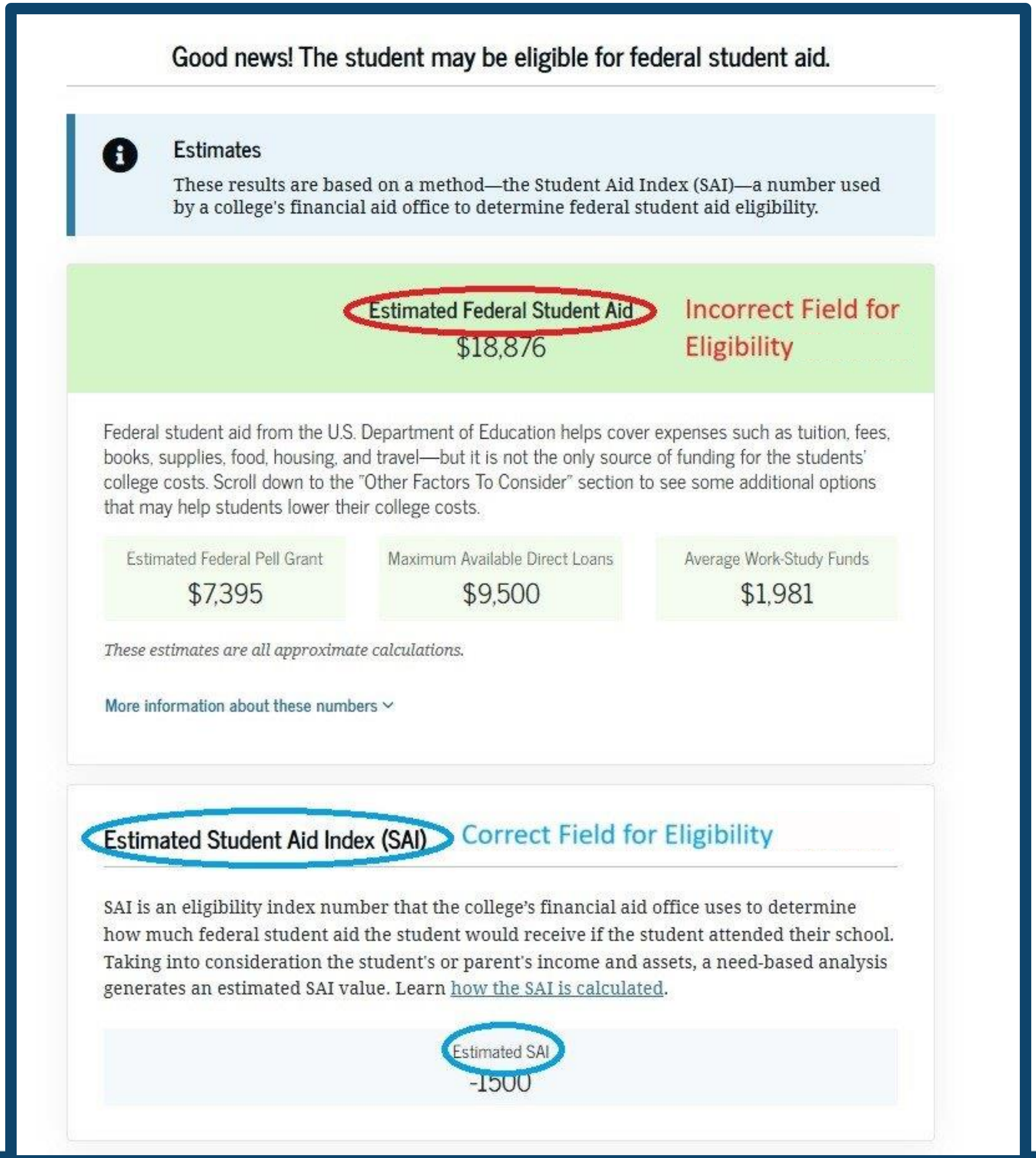
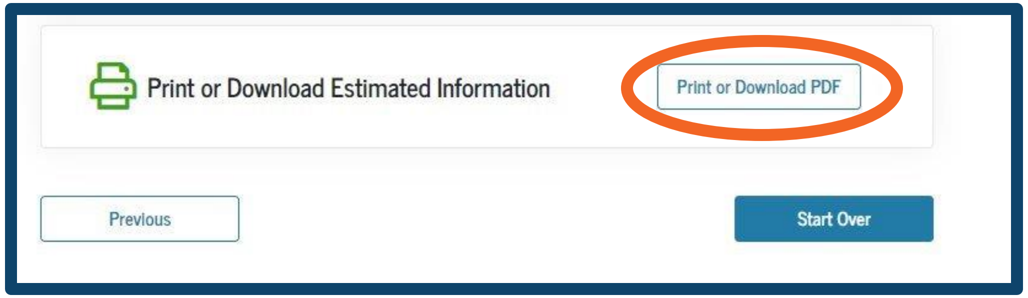


Results

For DEPENDENT and INDEPENDENT students:

- **DO NOT** input the Estimated Federal Student Aid (circled red)amount into the application. **This is NOT your SAI.**

- **DO** input the Estimated SAI (circled blue) number into the Eligibility section of the application and upload the PDF available for download (circled orange).



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Questions?

applicationhelp@greatjobskc.org

Important Dates

Application Opens: January 8, 2026

Application Closes: February 27, 2026, at 5:00p.m.

Awards Day: May 5, 2026

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Interest Form

Receive scholarship application updates and reminders!