

# FAFSA Guide - Independent Students

## Step 1: Student Identity Information

Start FAFSA and confirm identity.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPwmcTFFXIU&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPwmcTFFXIU&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=1)

**FAFSA** FORM Student Kevin Morales Save FAFSA Menu

### Student Identity Information

Review the information below and verify that it's correct before moving forward.

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Name  
Kevin R Morales

Date of Birth  
02/15/2006

Social Security Number  
\*\*\*-\*\*-8158

Email Address  
Kevin@test.com

Mobile Phone Number  
(555) 557-6119

*To update this information for all U.S. Department of Education communications, go to [Account Settings](#).*


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Permanent Mailing Address  
*Include apartment number.*  
922 Longfellow St NW

City  
Baltimore

State  
MD

Zip Code  
21570

Country 

[Continue](#)

## Step 2: Personal Circumstances

Confirm independent status.



### Student Personal Circumstances

Select all that apply or "None of these apply."

- The student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training. ⓘ
- The student is a veteran of the U.S. armed forces. ⓘ
- The student has children or other people (excluding their spouse) who live with them and receive more than half of their support from the student now and between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027. ⓘ
- At any time since the student turned 13, they were an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent). ⓘ
- At any time since the student turned 13, they were a ward of the court. ⓘ
- At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care. ⓘ
- The student is or was a legally emancipated minor, as determined by a court in their state of residence. ⓘ
- The student is or was in a legal guardianship with someone other than their parent or stepparent, as determined by a court in their state of residence. ⓘ
- None of these apply.

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## Step 3: Demographics

Enter background and education info.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuQnc7M65d8&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuQnc7M65d8&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmX)

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Student Kevin Morales

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### Student High School Information

From what high school did or will the student graduate? ⓘ

State  
Maryland (MD)

City  
Baltimore

High School Name optional  
Doris M. Johnson High

Doris M. Johnson High  
Baltimore, Maryland (MD)

Search Again

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### Step 4: Financial Information

Enter income, assets, and household info.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGACb\\_Uajvk&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGACb_Uajvk&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=3)

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### Student 2024 Tax Return Information

Refer to the student's 2024 tax return to answer the following questions.  
If the answer is zero or the question does not apply, enter 0.

Where to find this information on the tax form

**Filing Status**

Single

Head of household

Married filing jointly

Married filing separately

Qualifying surviving spouse

**Income Earned From Work**

*IRS Form 1040 (or 1040-NR); Line 1c + Schedule 1: Lines 3 + 6. If a tax form line's value is negative, treat it as zero in your calculation.*

\$  .00

**Tax Exempt Interest Income**

*IRS Form 1040; Line 2a*

\$  .00

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### Federal Benefits Received

**Responses Won't Reduce Federal Student Aid Eligibility**  
Answering these questions won't reduce your eligibility for federal student aid or these programs.

**At any time during 2024 or 2025, did the student or anyone in their family receive benefits from any of the following federal programs?** ⓘ  
*Family includes the student's spouse, children, and other dependents. Select all that apply or "None of these apply."*

Earned Income Credit (EIC) ⓘ

Federal Housing Assistance ⓘ

Free or Reduced Price School Lunch ⓘ

Medicaid ⓘ

## Step 5: Colleges

Select schools.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AB74o\\_AEDvw&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AB74o_AEDvw&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmX)

[yilGn-8m&index=4](#)

The screenshot shows the FAFSA form progress bar with six steps: Personal Circumstances, Demographics, Financials, Colleges (current step), Contributor Invite, and Signature. Below the progress bar, the heading reads "Where should we send the FAFSA® information?" followed by instructions to add at least one college or career school. A search interface is visible with a dropdown menu for "State" showing "Cali" and "California (CA)" as options. A "Search" button is located below the search fields. At the bottom of the form, there are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons.

### Step 6: Contributor Invite

Invite spouse if required. If you're an independent student and you're married (and not separated) and didn't file taxes jointly with your current spouse, you'll be required to invite your spouse to participate on your FAFSA form.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gid6tpYM00&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gid6tpYM00&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmXyilGn-8m&index=5)

### Step 7: Signature

Sign and submit FAFSA.

Watch Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Xux1eoRFwc&list=PLtr3wy4M\\_CJ1dh4\\_EU1dkacmX](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Xux1eoRFwc&list=PLtr3wy4M_CJ1dh4_EU1dkacmX)

NOTE:

Additionally, by signing this application electronically using your FSA ID, you authorize the U.S. Department of Education to disclose all information provided on this application, as required under Section 483(a)(2)(D)(i) of the *Higher Education Act of 1965*, as amended, to the institutions you have identified herein, state higher education agencies (in your state of residence and the states in which the institutions identified herein are located), and designated scholarship organizations to assist with the application, award, and administration of federal, state, or institutional financial aid programs and designated scholarship programs. Notwithstanding this authorization, the name of an institution that you select to authorize such disclosure shall not be shared with any other institution.

You must sign your FAFSA® form now and then your contributor can submit your form when complete.

I, Kevin Morales, agree to the terms outlined above.

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[Sign](#)