

FAFSA CONTRIBUTORS

WHAT IS A FAFSA CONTRIBUTOR?

A contributor (typically, a parent) is someone who needs to provide information, a signature and consent to transfer their federal tax info into your **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. They are not financially responsible for your education.

Filling out the **FAFSA** is the key to unlocking free money for college or career training (including grants and scholarships like the Michigan Achievement Scholarship), work-study funds and loans. But who actually needs to complete the form? Usually, one or more of your parents will be required to fill out a portion of the **FAFSA**.

Not sure which parent to include? This guide breaks it down for you!

PARENT(S) MARITAL STATUS	WHOSE INFORMATION TO INCLUDE ON YOUR FAFSA	HERE'S WHAT TO DO:
Married to each other	Both parents	One parent starts the form and selects "married." <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filed taxes together? Just one parent needs to log in to report finances for both.• Filed separately? Each parent will need to be invited to fill out the FAFSA, provide their own info, give consent and sign the form.
Not married but live together	Both parents	Whether they are divorced, separated or never married, each parent will need to be invited to fill out the FAFSA, provide their own info, give consent and sign the form.
Not married and don't live together (Never married, divorced, remarried)	The parent who provided the most financial support in the past year (or the one with the higher income if financial support is equal)	If that parent is single , only <i>their</i> financial info is needed. If they're remarried , include their spouse (your stepparent), too. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filed taxes together? One parent reports the finances for both.• Filed separately? Both must provide financial info and sign.

WHAT IF YOUR PARENTS AREN'T U.S. CITIZENS?

Your parents' citizenship status does not affect your eligibility for federal student aid. Parents who don't have a Social Security number can still create a [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) account and complete their portion of your FAFSA.

When inviting them as a contributor, check the box saying they don't have a Social Security number. That section will stay blank and disabled on their section of the form.

STILL UNSURE WHO YOUR CONTRIBUTORS ARE?

Scan the code to use FAFSA's "Who counts as a parent on the FAFSA form" tool to figure it out.

MICHIGAN
ACHIEVEMENT
SCHOLARSHIP



FAFSA.GOV