

2025-2026



Student Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student AU ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Independent Student: Marital Status

Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) indicates that there is a discrepancy in your marital status OR the status originally reported on the FAFSA has changed. In order to resolve this discrepancy, please read and complete this form. Additional information may be required.

#### Section A: Marital Status

Check the box that accurately reflects your marital status as of the date you **ORIGINALLY** submitted your FAFSA. You can view your FAFSA Submissions Summary via StudentAid.gov to confirm the date your 2025-2026 FAFSA application was filed.

Student's marital status is:	Enter the necessary information:
<input type="checkbox"/> Married/Remarried	Enter date of marriage: Month: _____ Year: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <i>(Not currently married)</i>	Attach a copy of the FINAL court-ordered divorce decree. Enter date of divorce: Month: _____ Year: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Separated	*Further documentation is <u>required</u> – see page 2, section B* Enter date of separation: Month: _____ Year: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Widowed	Please attach a copy of the death certificate.
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	Please attach a statement, signed by the student and parent, explaining the discrepancy in the marital status, if different from what was reported on the FAFSA. To review the information reported on the FAFSA, please review the Students FAFSA Submissions Summary via StudentAid.gov.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of completion: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section B: Separation Documentation**

Complete this section only if the response to the student's marital status is **SEPARATED** in Section A of this form. FAFSA regulations require that you report your marital status as of the day you **ORIGINALLY** submitted the FAFSA.

Marital separation is defined as: **(a)** one of the partners has left the household for an indefinite period, **AND (b)** the marriage is permanently severed. If your circumstance does not meet **BOTH** parts of this definition, **then you are required to report both parents' information on the FAFSA**. In order for us to verify the status of separation, please provide **all** the following:

1. **TAX RETURNS AND W-2s:** Submit signed copies of both the student's and spouse's **2023** Federal Income Tax Return and **2023** W-2(s). (Be sure to include all 1099s and all Schedules.)
2. **PROOF OF SEPARATE RESIDENCES:** Provide proof that the student and spouse are living separately from each other **AS OF THE DATE THE FAFSA WAS ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED**. Submit copies of lease/contract agreements showing each spouse is maintaining a different residence **OR** separate utility bills, such as water/electric/gas. **Note: P.O. Boxes do not qualify as proof of separate residences.**

**If you cannot provide proof of maintaining separate residences, you must provide our office with the following:**

1. **NOTARIZED LETTER:** Please attach a notarized statement, signed by the student and spouse, indicating that the separation is definitive and why you cannot provide proof of separate residences.
2. **REFERENCE LETTERS:** Please attach two letters from reputable third-party sources who can confirm the claim of separation in their professional capacity on their business letterhead. For example, a clergy person, marriage counselor, or attorney can provide such a letter. The letters should state the date of separation, current living arrangements, the length of time they have known the parent(s), and their knowledge of these events. Please make sure it is legible and includes the person's full printed name, address, contact information, and signature.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All required documentation **MUST** be submitted at the time the form is submitted to One-Stop Student Services Center. Failure to provide the necessary documentation as per the above along with the **signed** Parental Marital Status worksheet will result in your financial aid not being processed for the 2025-2026 academic year.

*Any conflicting information within the documentation you have provided must be resolved. If you are not able to provide the above requested documentation, both parents' information may be required on the FAFSA. All documentation must be reviewed and approved before we can determine your financial aid eligibility.*

***Submission of the requested documentation does not guarantee approval.***

**WARNING: Per Federal Regulation, if you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.**