

Counseling Corner @raid.ersrise

January Dates to Remember:

- January 11-12 Finals
- January 18 8th Grade Parent Night
- January 23 Spring Government Class Presentation on Financial Aid
- January 24 Back to School Night
- January 26 Grade level Assemblies
- January 30 Cash for College Line by Line FAFSA Application Workshop



The new term starts January 16th. Please remember that schedule change requests will only be granted for scheduling mistakes, **not** for teacher, period, or lunches.

Seniors who have not already done so should set up their free Parchment Account for Transcript requests online. Individual codes were distributed in an email in December from Parchment. Check your school email.

In January, high school students can focus on several important aspects of their academic and personal development. Here are some suggestions:

- **Mid-Year Academic Review:** Reflect on your academic performance during the first semester.. Identify areas where you can improve and set specific goals for the remainder of the school year.
- **College and Career Planning:** Start researching colleges and career options.
- **Exam Preparation:** Create a study plan. Review class notes, textbooks, and practice with sample questions.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** Consider joining new clubs or taking on leadership roles.
- **Time Management:** Create a weekly schedule to balance academic and extracurricular commitments.
- **Health and Well-being:** Prioritize self-care, including sufficient sleep, a balanced diet, and regular exercise. Practice stress-management techniques to maintain mental well-being.
- **Goal Setting:** Set realistic and achievable goals for the rest of the school year. Break down larger goals into smaller, manageable tasks.
- **Communication with Teachers:** If you're struggling in a particular subject, communicate with your teachers for extra help. Clarify any doubts or concerns about coursework.
- **Explore Summer Opportunities:** Research and consider summer programs, internships, or volunteer opportunities.
- **Financial Literacy:** Learn about basic financial management. Understand budgeting, saving, and the importance of financial responsibility.
- **Personal Development:** Consider reading books or articles outside of your regular curriculum.
- **Networking:** Attend school events or community gatherings to broaden your network.

Remember, January is an excellent time to reflect on your progress and make adjustments for a successful second half of the school year. Balancing academics, extracurriculars, and personal well-being will contribute to a well-rounded and fulfilling high school experience.

RISE CENTER Counselor of the Day - January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mrs. Clark	Ms. Price	Mrs. Ozeroff	Ms. Alduenda	Mrs. Cramer

RIVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL

CASH FOR COLLEGE WORKSHOP

Tuesday, January 30th, 2024

Virtual

6:00–8:00 pm

log in at : <http://meet.google.com/oma-bsmr-aes>

Seniors

ATTEND THIS FREE CASH FOR COLLEGE WORKSHOP TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE COMPLETING THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) OR THE CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT (CADAA) AND CHAFEE GRANT APPLICATION FOR FOSTER YOUTH.

Information you will need:

- 2022 Tax information (1040's and W2's)
- FSA ID for all Contributors (Parent and Student)
- Driver's License, if you have one
- Social Security Number, if you have one
- Alien Registration Card, if you have one
- Most current bank balances
- Any records of untaxed income
- List of colleges you are interested in

Creating an FSA ID without a SSN

Create an Account

Screenshot of Account Creation Page

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
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.

Contributors without an SSN who are required to create an FSA ID, such as a student's spouse, parent, or other parent will indicate they do not have an SSN here

They will be sent through the knowledge-based ID verification process when they do not have an SSN

Note: Mailing address is required for people without SSNs

Verification Pop-up

- If a parent has no SSN, once they click the "I don't have a Social Security number" box this warning will pop up
- This is to encourage people with an SSN to enter their SSN
- Those contributors without an SSN will click "Continue Without SSN" to continue with the process

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.

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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.

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) 775-5152
 (970) 680-6986
 (128) 791-0911
 None of the above

Once the FSA ID has been created, the information verified and confirmed by the user and the user has agreed to the FSA terms and conditions, there is one more step for non-SSN users – answer knowledge-based questions to verify identify

- No credit check is performed, and a credit history is not required for questions to be generated
- FSA will use information from TransUnion to verify identity through a series of questions (1-4)
- If any of the questions are answered incorrectly, a new screen will show up and the user will need to contact the number provided to confirm identity. If not confirmed, parent will not be able to complete or contribute to FAFSA

Creating an FSA ID without a SSN continued

“Your Account Was Created But You Need to Contact Us”

“What’s Next?”

“Call to Confirm Your Identity”

“We couldn’t verify the information you provided. Call us at 1-800-433-3243 to confirm you identity”

ID VERIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT SSN’S – REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

FederalStudentAid

- Completed Attestation Form
 - Will be available on StudentAid.gov
- Proof of Identity:
 - ONE of the following forms of ID
 - Driver’s License
 - State or City Identification Card
 - Foreign Passport
- OR
- A UTILITY BILL + ONE of the following forms of ID
 - Municipal identification card
 - Community ID
 - Consular identification card

ID VERIFICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT SSN’S - PROCESS

FederalStudentAid

- Contact FSAIC at 1-800-433-3243
- A Customer Service Representative will look up your account and initiate the identity verification process
- You will receive an email with a case number and instructions for providing the proper documentation for us to verify your identity
- Submit the required documentation
- Within 1-3 days FSA will provide an email confirming that your identity has been verified

FAQs

How soon can parents without SSN create FSA ID account?

- ❖ This functionality will be open with the new FAFSA release.

Do people without SSN still need to put zeros for an FSA ID or FAFSA?

- ❖ If filling out the paper FAFSA, put zeros. The paper application is the only place you will do that.

Can an Individual Tax Identifier Number (ITIN) be entered in place of SSN?

- ❖ No. Only an SSN can be put in the SSN field on the online application. An Individual Tax Identifier Number (ITIN) can be entered on the paper FAFSA but is not required to complete the form.

If you get the identify verification questions wrong, how many attempts do you get to try again?

- ❖ You only have one attempt to verify. If parent gets a wrong answer, they must go through the process of calling and providing documents.

What if the home address of the parent is outside of USA?

- ❖ That’s not a problem. A parent can still input the foreign address. There are no restriction there.

Does the foreign passport have to be active/unexpired?

- ❖ Yes. It has to be a valid, non-expired, passport.

Are there any available languages other than English?

- ❖ Yes. The FSA customer service center offers interpretation services. More info will be available on the website.

5 Things You Should Know about the FAFSA for 2024/2025

1. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) Updates

- Contributor is a new term being introduced on the 2024–25 FAFSA® form—it refers to anyone (the student, the student's spouse, a biological or adoptive parent, or the parent's spouse [stepparent]) who is required to provide their information and signature on the FAFSA form. All contributors must also provide consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred from the IRS directly into the FAFSA form. Contributors are not responsible for paying for the student's education costs.
- The parent wizard on the FAFSA form will offer a series of filtering questions that determine which parent of a dependent student will need an invitation to be a contributor. The parent wizard will also identify if there is another parent whose information must be included on the FAFSA form. The information provided by the parent on the FAFSA form will determine if a second parent or parent's spouse will also be a required contributor.
- Students will be able to include up to 20 colleges on the online FAFSA form (double the previous limit).
- The save key has been eliminated on the FAFSA form.
- Demographic questions about the student's gender, race, and ethnicity have been added to the FAFSA form. These questions are for research only and do not affect federal student aid eligibility.

2. Requirement for StudentAid.gov Account

- Beginning in the 2024–25 award year, everyone contributing to the FAFSA form online must have their own StudentAid.gov account.
- Each contributor, including the student, will access their StudentAid.gov account by using their FSA ID (account username and password).
- Parents and other contributors (not including the student) without a Social Security number (SSN) will be able to create a StudentAid.gov account to fill out and sign their section of the student's FAFSA form online.
- Students will need to provide their SSN to create their StudentAid.gov account. However, a student who is a citizen of the Freely Associated States can create a StudentAid.gov account without an SSN.

3. Consent and Approval To Transfer Federal Tax Information

- All contributors, including the student, must provide consent and approval to have their federal tax information transferred directly from the IRS into the FAFSA form via direct data exchange.
- Consent and approval for the transfer of federal tax information is required even if the contributor did not file a tax return.
- Federal tax information will be used to determine the student's eligibility for federal student aid.
- If the student or another contributor does not provide consent and approval, the student will not be eligible for federal student aid—even if they manually enter tax information into the FAFSA form.

4. Changes to Federal Pell Grant Eligibility

- New formulas expand Federal Pell Grant eligibility to more students and link eligibility to family size, household income, and the federal poverty level.
- Federal Pell Grant eligibility has a calculation that is separate from the Student Aid Index (SAI) calculation. For some applicants, the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria will only include tax information and federal poverty guidelines. For other applicants, the formula may also use the separately calculated SAI.
- The SAI replaces the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) in the calculation to determine eligibility for need-based funding. The formula is: $\text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Student Aid Index} - \text{Other Financial Assistance} = \text{Financial Need}$.
- Federal Pell Grant access has been expanded to include students who are confined or incarcerated and enrolled in an approved Prison Education Program.
- Federal Pell Grant lifetime eligibility has been restored for students who had an eligible federal student loan discharge.

5. Applicants Unable To Provide Parent Information

- There is federal student aid available for students who cannot provide parent information on their FAFSA form due to unusual circumstances.
- Students who are homeless, orphans, former foster youth, or who have unusual circumstances that prevent them from providing parent information will benefit from simplified questions that more efficiently determine their independent status.
- Students who indicate unusual circumstances on their FAFSA form will be granted provisionally independent status and will be able to complete the form without providing parent information.
- A financial aid administrator will make the final determination of a student's dependency status based on the documentation that the student submits to the school, or the financial aid administrator may perform their own personal assessment.