**Step 1:** Create Your Account

- Start here: [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- Click on “Create Account” on the top right portion of the page.
- Once you are on the “Create Account” page, click on “Get Started”

**Step 2:** Personal Information

- Provide your full name, date of birth, and 9-digit Social Security number as they appear on your Social Security card

**Step 3:** Account Information

- **Username:** If you see a message, “The username you entered is already in use,” then you need to select another one.
- **Email:** Students should use a personal email, as the school email will not be accessible after graduation.
- **Password:**
  - Don’t include personal information, such as date of birth, name, or Social Security Number.
  - Your password must be between 8 and 30 characters in length and include at least one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, and one number.
  - Your password is case-sensitive.
  - Keep your username and password in a secure location. You will need them in the future.

**Step 4:** Contact Information

- Provide a permanent address and mobile phone number. The phone number will allow for authentication and will aid in account recovery.

**Step 5:** Communication Preferences

- You must select whether to receive required communications by email (recommended) or postal mail.
- You may opt in to receive informational emails and/or text messages regarding programs for which you may be eligible.
- Select your preferred language: English or Spanish.

**Step 6:** Challenge Questions & Answers

- Select 4 challenge questions from the dropdown menu and write your answers. You may also want to write these down in a secure location. Answering your challenge questions is one way to unlock your account or retrieve your username or password.
- Your answers are NOT case-sensitive.

**Step 7:** Review & Agree to Terms

- Review carefully and confirm your information.
- If you need to make a correction, use the “Edit” button within that tile of information.
- Review and agree to FSA’s terms and conditions.
Enable Two-Step Verification

Whenever you sign into your account, FSA will send a secure code to confirm that it is you. To protect your account, you will need to verify your phone number and email. FSA also suggests setting up an authenticator app.

Select the “verify” button next to the “SMS Verification” and the “Email Verification” buttons to confirm your contact information.

- To confirm your phone number: you will be sent a text message with the six-digit secure code to be entered.
- To confirm your email: you will be sent an email message with the six-digit secure code to be entered. If the code does not arrive within a few minutes, hit the “resend code” after checking your spam folder.
- Once you verify your mobile phone number and email, you can use them to log in, unlock your account, retrieve your username, or reset your password.

Authenticator App (recommended):

- Follow the instructions by clicking on the + sign: “set up authenticator app.”. Download an authenticator app from your mobile app store or use one you have already downloaded.
- Scan the QR code or copy the key to the authenticator app and enter the secure code.

Backup Code: This is a special code allowing access to your account, in the event you are not able to use your 2-step verification methods. This code will be automatically generated for you; please write this code in a secure location.

Helpful Tips

- A mobile phone number, Social Security Number, and email address may be associated only with one FSA ID account. Students and parents may not share contact information.
- A question mark icon next to each question serves as your “help” button, if needed.
- Your information will be sent to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for confirmation. SSA review will take 1–3 days; you will receive an email when this step has been completed.
- You can immediately use your account username and password to sign an original (first time) FAFSA form.

Contact Us

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