



Guide to Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool



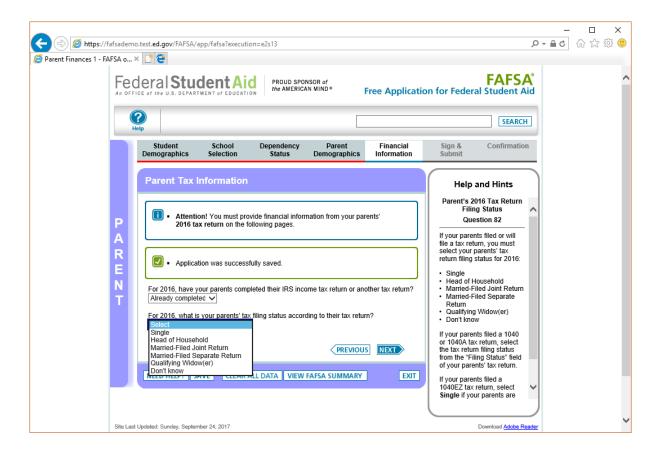
Step 1: Go to www.FAFSA.gov.



- If this is your initial application, click Start a New FAFSA.
- If you are making a correction to an already processed FAFSA, click Login, ensure the correct aid year is selected on the blue tab, and click on the Make FAFSA Correction link.



Step 2: Once you complete the questions on the first four tabs of the FAFSA, you'll get to the **Financial Information** tab where you'll have the option to link to the IRS.



Answer the first two questions:

- For 2016, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?
- For 2016, what is your parents' tax filing status according to their tax return?



Step 3: You'll then be asked if a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return has been filed for 2016.

Did you, the parents, file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return for 2016?

Yes No

Applying is faster and easier if you transfer your tax return information into this FAFSA with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT)!

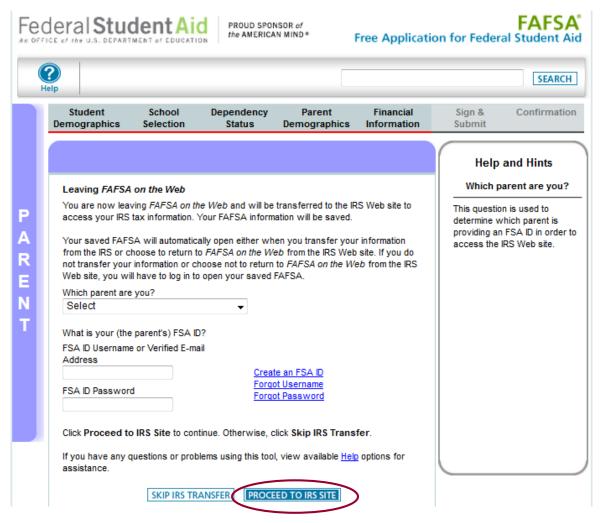
If you answered 'Yes' to this question, the IRS

Data Retrieval Tool will not be available for you, and you will need to manually enter the tax information for each question.

If you answered 'No' to this question, click the 'Link to IRS' button.



Step 4: You'll come to a "Leaving FAFSA on the Web" page. Click on the "Proceed to IRS Site" button.



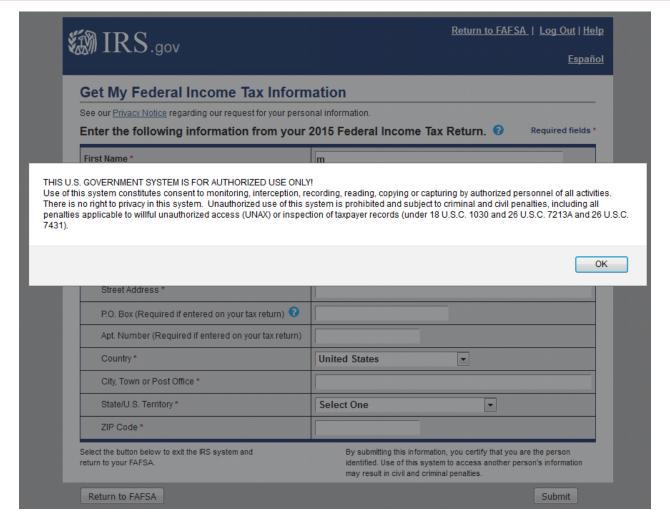
If you are submitting parent information, you will first need to enter the FSA ID Username and Password for the parent.

To create an FSA ID, visit

https://fsaid.ed.gov.

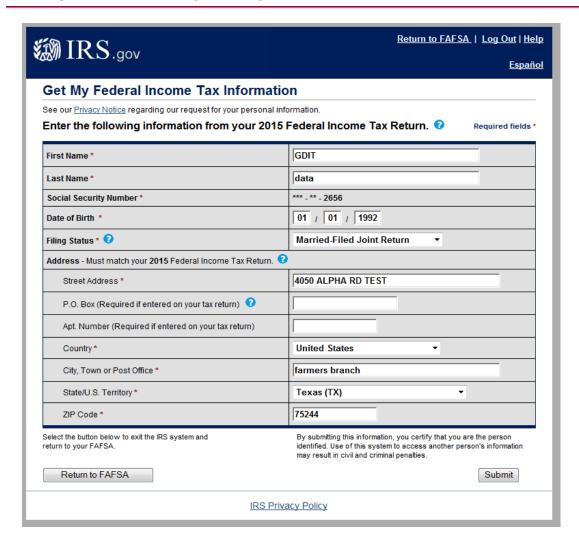


Step 5: You'll see a warning text box. Click OK.





Step 6: Enter your personal information and click Submit.

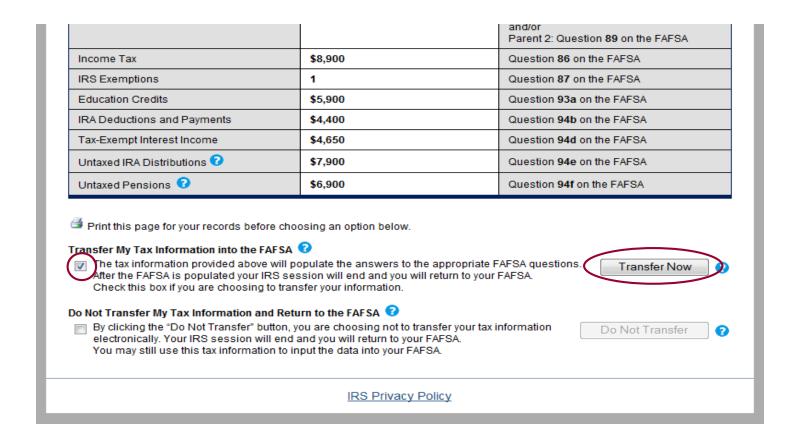


Note: You must type your information (including address) exactly as it appears on your tax return, even if your information has changed.

Getting an error message? Review the information on the last page of this guide.

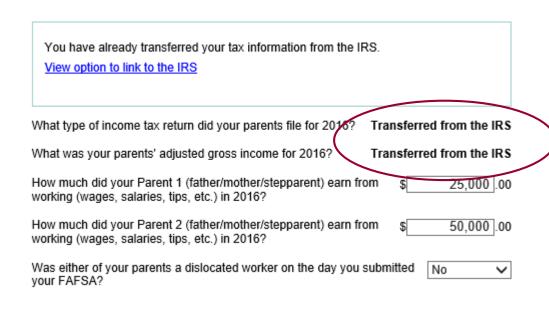


Step 7: If the IRS is able to validate your information, check the "Transfer my Information into the FAFSA" box and click "Transfer Now."





Step 8: You'll be taken back to the *Financial Information* tab of the FAFSA, and you'll now see certain fields pre-populated with data from your tax return. Continue to answer the remaining questions.

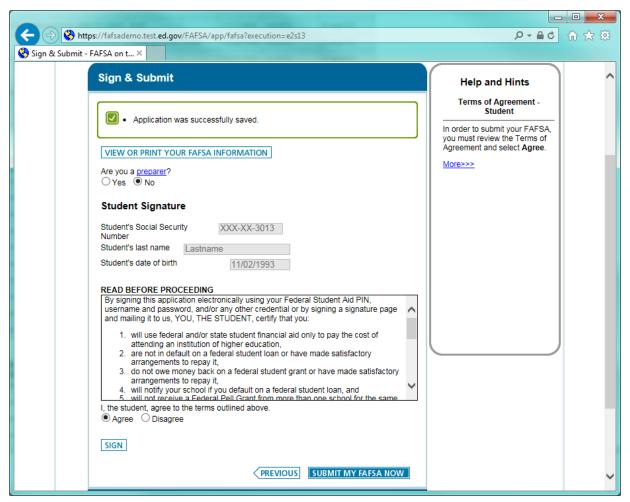


Note: For security purposes, information populated by the IRS Data Retrieval Tool is not displayed, and you cannot make updates to those fields.

If you are using the IRS
Data Retrieval Tool for both
the student and parent,
you will have to complete
this process twice.



Step 9: Click 'Save' at the bottom of the screen and continue with the 'Next' button through any remaining sections until you reach the last section to sign and submit your FAFSA.





IRS Error Message

Did you get an error message indicating that the address you entered does not match the address that the IRS has on record for you?

If you know you entered it correctly from your tax return, the IRS may have standardized it to conform to United States Postal Service (USPS) specifications.

To look up your standardized address, use the **Look Up a Zip Code** tool on the USPS website at:

https://tools.usps.com/go/ZipLookupAction!input.action.

Then return to the IRS Data Retrieval Tool and try your request using your standardized address.

