

Federal Student Aid Account



Important Information & FAQs

A Federal Student Aid (FSA) Account username and password, previously known as an FSA ID, gives you access to FSA's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

IMPORTANT: Your FSA Account is used to sign legally binding documents electronically. You should create your own FSA Account, and your parent should create their own. Don't give your FSA Account information to anyone – not even to someone helping you fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

To create an FSA Account, go to StudentAid.gov and use this form to track important information. This information should be kept confidential and stored in a secure location.

Student Information

Student Email Address: _____

Username: _____

Password: _____

Mobile Number: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #1: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #2: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #3: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #4: _____

Back-up Code: _____

Parent Information (if applicable)

Parent Email Address: _____

Username: _____

Password: _____

Mobile Number: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #1: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #2: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #3: _____

Challenge Question/Answer #4: _____

Back-up Code: _____

What information do I need to create an FSA Account?

To create an FSA Account you will need your Social Security number, full name, and date of birth. You'll also need to create a memorable username and password, and provide answers to some challenge questions so you can retrieve your account information if you forget it.

You will also be required to either provide your email address or your mobile phone number and opt in to messaging when you create your FSA Account. Providing a mobile phone number and email address that you have access to will make it easier to log in to Department of Education online systems, unlock your account, retrieve your forgotten username, or reset your forgotten password.

IMPORTANT: Each email address and mobile phone number can only be associated with one FSA Account. If you share an email address with someone else, then only one of you will be able to use that email address to create an account. This applies to your mobile phone number, too.

How do I create an FSA Account?

! **Before you start:** Make sure you have access to our personal email account and mobile phone.

Step 1: Visit StudentAid.gov and click "Create an Account," then click "Get Started."

Step 2: Enter your name, date of birth, and Social Security number exactly as they appear on your Social Security card.

Step 3: Enter your username, email, and password.

Step 4: Enter your optional mailing address and phone number. You may also set up Mobile Phone Account Recovery if you provided a mobile phone number, allowing you to unlock your account from your mobile device.

Step 5: Confirm your communication and language preferences.

Step 6: Provide four required unique, challenge questions and answers.

Step 7: Confirm and verify your personal information and acknowledge the account terms and conditions.

Step 8: Add Two-Step Verification to safeguard your account. Whenever you sign in, you will receive a code to verify it is really you. Verify your account via the email or mobile phone number you previously entered. You will see a green box confirming your Two-Step Verification is set up.

Step 9: A backup code is generated when you complete the Two-Step Verification process. Store this code in a secure place. Should you find yourself in a situation where you cannot use either of the Two-Step Verification methods, your generated backup code can be used to access your account.

OPTIONAL Use of an authenticator app, available from your phone's app store, provides the most security of the two-step verification methods. Select "set up an authenticator app" and follow the instructions provided.

Additional Resources

- StudentAid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out
- FSA YouTube Video – "How do I create an FSA ID?" youtube.com/watch?v=K7ihhGk8mCY

→ Learn more about the FSA ID at StudentAid.gov.