

Students in Unique Situations: Tips for Completing the 2022-23 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

Questions on the 2022-23 FAFSA that may cause difficulty for students in unique situations, such as wards of the court or foster youth, are listed below. **Question and Step numbers** refer to the paper FAFSA. Please note that some questions on the paper FAFSA do not appear on the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet. Answering yes to any question in Step Three on the FAFSA means that you are an independent student and will not need to provide parental information on the FAFSA.

Question #44i Step 2

“Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement.”

Q: I am a single mom with one child and will get free day care for my child (from a grandmother, aunt, or free day care center) while I go to college. Does the value of this free childcare have to be reported on the FAFSA?

A: No, this service is not income and the information is not collected on the FAFSA. However, note that you need to let the financial aid administrator at your college know that you are receiving free dependent care; an allowance for dependent care may not be added to your cost of attendance because it is not an expense you are incurring.

Question #50 Step 3

“Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023?”

Q: I have a child who will be living with me and I will receive

