What is an FSA ID?

An FSA ID is a username and password that you must use to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education (ED) websites (formerly known as FSA PIN). Your FSA ID identifies you as someone who has the right to access your own personal information on ED websites such as the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (*FAFSA*®) at fafsa.gov.

If you are a parent of a *dependent student*, you will need your own FSA ID if you want to sign your child's FAFSA electronically. If you have more than one child attending college, you can use the same FSA ID to sign all applications. *Please note: Each FSA ID user must have a unique e-mail address*.

Your FSA ID is used to sign legally binding documents electronically. It has the same legal status as a written signature. **Don't give your FSA ID to anyone—not even to someone helping you fill out the FAFSA**. Sharing your FSA ID could put you at risk of identity theft!

What happened to the Federal Student Aid PIN?

The FSA ID replaces the Federal Student Aid PIN. If you already have a PIN, you can link your information to your new FSA ID by entering your PIN while registering for your FSA ID. (This will save you time when registering for your FSA ID.) However, a PIN is not required to create an FSA ID.

Where can I use my FSA ID?

Once your information is verified with the Social Security Administration (one–three days from the date you apply), you will be able to use your FSA ID to access your personal information on any ED website:

At www.fafsa.ed.gov, you will be able to electronically sign your (or your child's) FAFSA, import your tax information from the IRS, make online corrections to an existing FAFSA, as well as view or print an online copy of your Student Aid Report.

At www.studentloans.gov you can complete your Entrance Counseling, Exit Counseling, sign a Master Promissory Note or complete a PLUS Loan request.

At www.nslds.ed.gov you can look up your loan servicer's contact information or view a history of your loans.

At www.teach-ats.ed.gov you can sign your ATS for the TEACH program.

How do I get an FSA ID?

You can create an FSA ID at www.studentaid.ed.gov.

The FSA ID process consists of three main steps:

1. Enter your log-in information.

   o Provide your e-mail address, a unique username, and password, and verify that you are at least 13 years old.

2. Enter your personal information.

   o Provide your Social Security number, name, and date of birth.
   o Include your mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number, and language preference.
   o For security purposes, provide answers to five challenge questions.

3. Submit your FSA ID information.

   o Agree to the terms and conditions.
   o Verify your e-mail address. (Note: By verifying your e-mail address, you can use your e-mail address as your username when logging into certain ED websites. This verification also allows you to retrieve your username or reset your password without answering challenge questions.)

Can I create an FSA ID for my child, parent, or spouse?

No. Only the owner of an FSA ID should create the account. The FSA ID serves as a legal signature and should not be shared with anyone.

Can I use my new FSA ID right away?

If you already have a Federal Student Aid PIN, you can link your PIN to your FSA ID. This allows you to immediately use your FSA ID to access your personal information on any of the ED websites that require an FSA ID.

If you are creating an FSA ID for the first time, or if you don't link your FSA ID to your PIN, your FSA ID is considered conditional until your information is verified with the SSA. You may use your conditional FSA ID to sign an original FAFSA, but nothing else.

Once your information is verified with the SSA (one–three days from the date you apply), you will be able to use your FSA ID to fully access your financial aid information.

After I get an FSA ID, will I still be required to use my Federal Student Aid PIN?

No. Your FSA ID will replace your PIN as the way to confirm your identity when accessing your financial aid information through certain ED websites. When logging in to these websites, you will be required to enter only your FSA ID username and password.

I previously created a password when I started my FAFSA. Is that the same as the FSA ID password?

No. Prior to the implementation of the FSA ID, you may have created a password when starting a FAFSA. This FAFSA password was used to save a partially completed FAFSA or FAFSA correction and return to it later. It was also used to share a FAFSA between a parent and child who were not together geographically. If you created a password for a FAFSA or FAFSA correction, you should enter that password when you are asked for your Save Key.

Your FSA ID password is not the same as the former FAFSA password or the Save Key.

Does my FSA ID expire?

Your username does not expire, but your FSA ID password will expire every 18 months.

What if I forget my FSA ID username or password?

If you have forgotten your username or password, don't worry. On our log-in pages, you'll find links that give you the option of retrieving your username or password through your verified e-mail address or by successfully answering your challenge questions.

If you have forgotten your username but verified your e-mail address when creating your FSA ID, you can use your e-mail address in place of your username whenever you are logging in with your FSA ID.