

<p>Slide 1 - Introduction</p>	<p>Thank you for joining this session on the topic of who is a parent? It is brought to you by the Office of Student Financial Assistance, a division of the Florida Department of Education – a state sponsor of the National Training for Counselors and Mentors.</p>
<p>Slide 2 – Who Qualifies as a Parent for a Dependent Student?</p>	<p>The federal student aid programs are based on the principle that paying for college is a family responsibility. If a student is dependent on his or her parents, he or she must include parental information. A parent is determined based on the criteria in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA. This allows the U.S. Department of Education to determine the financial strength of the family. In this module, we will focus on identifying who the parent is for FAFSA purposes.</p>
<p>Slide 3 – Who is a Parent? Infographic</p>	<p>Although a student may live with and receive support from any adult, only certain individuals count as a parent for FAFSA purposes. This infographic gives a detailed breakdown regarding which parent or parents are required to complete the FAFSA.</p>
<p>Slide 4 – Who is a Parent?</p>	<p>The following count as parents: Biological parents; Adoptive parents; and Stepparents, if they are married to the student’s biological or adoptive parent and the student is included in their household size.</p>
<p>Slide 5 – Who is not a Parent?</p>	<p>The following individuals are not considered the student’s parent for FAFSA purposes: Foster parents; Legal guardians who have not adopted the student; Relatives, such as grandparents, who have not adopted the student; and Stepparents who have not adopted the student and who would be the only person providing parental information. Older brothers or sisters who have not adopted the student are also not considered the student’s parents for FAFSA purposes.</p>
<p>Slide 6 – Vicki: Case Study</p>	<p>Let’s take a quick look at some of the more common scenarios to determine who the parent is for FAFSA purposes. Our student Vicki, whose parents are divorced, lives with her mom and only visits with dad for a few weeks over the summer. In this scenario, Vicki’s mom would be the parent for FAFSA purposes.</p> <p>What if Vicki’s dad makes more money than her mother? Should he then be considered the parent for FAFSA purposes since we are considering the financial strength of the family? The answer is no. Because Vicki lives with her mom the most, the mom is still considered the parent for FAFSA purposes.</p> <p>Another scenario to consider is what if Vicki decides to split her time equally between Mom and Dad? Should both parents be considered as parents for FAFSA purposes? The answer is no. The family should determine who provided the most financial support for her during the prior twelve months. This person would be considered the parent for FAFSA purposes.</p>

<p>Slide 7 – Vicki: Case Study</p>	<p>Let's continue to look at Vicki. Vicki's mom has now remarried. Is Vicki's stepparent included as a parent on the FAFSA? The answer is yes. Now that he is part of the family, both he and Vicki's mother are the parents for FAFSA purposes.</p> <p>What if Vicki's stepfather cannot help her pay for college because he has children of his own to help? Can he be excluded from the FAFSA? The answer is no. Since he is part of the family, his information must be included on Vicki's FAFSA. However, if his children live with them, they will be included in the household size and impact the amount of Vicki's financial need.</p>
<p>Slide 8 – Shawn: Case Study</p>	<p>Our next student is Shawn. His mother has passed away and he does not get along with his father. Due to the strained relationship with his father, Shawn has moved in with his sister and her husband. Are the sister and her husband considered parents for FAFSA purposes? The answer is no, unless they have legally adopted him.</p> <p>Shawn's father recently became incarcerated. Does Shawn have to work with his father to complete the FAFSA, even if he is in jail? In both of these instances, Shawn must attempt to work with his father to complete the FAFSA. If he cannot do so, Shawn can submit the FAFSA without parental information; however, it will not be complete. Shawn must then talk to his financial aid administrator about his special circumstances. The financial aid administrator will then work with Shawn to determine if he qualifies for a dependency override and can proceed without parental information. If Shawn does not qualify for a dependency override, he will need to work with his father to complete the parent portion. If the father refuses to do so, Shawn will not be eligible for any federal financial aid, other than an unsubsidized student loan.</p>
<p>Slide 9 – Carlos: Case Study</p>	<p>Let's take a look at our student, Carlos. Carlos moved out of his family home and in with his grandmother. Is the grandmother considered the parent for FAFSA purposes? The answer is no, unless she has legally adopted him. Carlos will need to work with his parent to complete the FAFSA.</p> <p>What if Carlos' grandmother is appointed his legal guardian? Is she now considered the parent for FAFSA purposes? The answer is no. Since Carlos is now in a legal guardianship, he is considered independent for FAFSA purposes and is not required to include parental information.</p>
<p>Slide 10 – Fred: Case Study</p>	<p>Now, let's take a look at our final student. Fred is a U.S. Citizen, but his parents are undocumented. Should he still complete the FAFSA? Or, does their documentation status prohibit him from doing so? The answer is yes, Fred should still complete the FAFSA.</p> <p>Fred's parents do not have social security numbers. He is worried about completing the FAFSA. What should he do? If the parents do not have social security numbers, they can enter all zeroes instead. The parents' must also</p>

	<p>provide the requested financial information, whether or not they have filed taxes with the IRS. Please note: If the parent used all zeroes in place of the social security number, they will be unable to secure an FSA ID to electronically sign the parent section of the FAFSA. The parents should then print the parent signature page of the application, sign and submit for processing.</p>
Slide 11 – Final	<p>Need additional assistance with this topic? Please feel free to visit www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and select the Contact Us tab to locate your regional outreach representative. We will be more than happy to help! Thanks for attending today's session.</p>