FAFSA Vocabulary

Student Aid Index (SAI) the amount determined by the need analysis formula that represents the amount of financial aid a student can receive. It can range from -1500 to 999999 and is not a dollar amount. A negative SAI indicates that a student is in greatest need of financial aid. It replaces the previous Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) formula.

Contributor A parent, step-parent, student or spouse of the student who is providing information to the FAFSA

Consent Required from all contributors in order for the IRS to share tax data directly to the FAFSA

Direct Data Exchange (DDX) imports tax data directly from the IRS to your FAFSA. It was previously called IRS Data Retrieval

FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS) is a summary of your completed FAFSA information. This replaces the Student Aid Report (SAR) used in previous years