



Lander University Financial Aid Office

320 Stanley Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29649
Email: finaid@lander.edu • Web: www.lander.edu/finaid
Phone: (864) 388-8340 • Fax: (864) 388-8811

UNRAR

How to Correct a Rejected or Unsigned FAFSA

Unofficial or Rejected FAFSA: The results of your FAFSA indicate that your application was missing required data or contains inconsistent information. As a result, your application is unofficial and Lander cannot continue processing your request for assistance.

Here’s what you need to do:

1. Read the comments on your processed FAFSA or Student Aid Report (SAR) to determine what is missing or is inconsistent and correct the information as necessary. You can review your comments at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> .
2. Once you have determined what needs to be corrected, go back on the FAFSA website at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> , log in to your FAFSA and make the corrections as necessary. You may use the table below to find the error that corresponds with the comment on your FAFSA and the instructions for correcting that error.
3. Don’t forget to sign your corrections with your FSA ID and a parent’s FSA ID if you are a dependent student.
4. If you are a dependent student, did not include your parents’ information, and feel you have special circumstances, please call our office at (864)388-8340 to discuss your situation with a financial aid counselor to determine what you need to do next.

| Reject Reason | Solution |
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| Signature Issues | |
| Missing student or parent signature on paper FAFSA or SAR or Web application. | Signature correction must be made on a printed SAR certification page and resubmitted to the FAFSA Processor or can be corrected electronically at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa . |
| Name Issues | |
| Missing Name | Provide the following: Student’s Last Name and/or Student’s first name or reenter a blank First or Last name if the student actually has only one name. |
| Missing Student’s first or last name. | Correct the Student’s last name or first name or reenter a blank first or last name field if the student actually only has one name. |
| Date of Birth Issues | |
| Missing or invalid date of birth. | Correct the date of birth |
| Date of Birth year equals 1900 through 1937. | Reenter or correct the student’s date of birth. |

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| Independent student and date of Birth equals 1/1/98 or greater, and Date of birth is not equal to or greater than the current year. | Re-enter or correct the student's date of birth. |
| Social Security Number Issues | |
| SSN not verified on SSA's database. | Correct the SSN. If the SSN is correct, contact the SSA to fix the error in their records. Then reenter the SSN and submit as a correction for an updated SSA match. SSA website: https://www.ssa.gov/ |
| Student Social Security Number (SSN) match, but no name match. | Reenter or correct Student's First and Last Name |
| Father's Social Security Number (SSN) match, but no name match. | Reenter or correct Father's First and Last Name |
| Mother's Social Security Number (SSN) match, but no name match. | Reenter or correct Mother's First and Last Name |
| Father's SSN contains all zeroes and reported as a tax filer. | Reenter or correct the Father's SSN. |
| Mother's SSN contains all zeroes and reported as a tax filer. | Reenter or correct the Mother's SSN. |
| Invalid SSN range. | Reenter or correct the student's current SSN. |
| Student's SSN match, but no Date of Birth match. | Reenter or correct the student's Date of Birth |
| Father's SSN match, but no Date of Birth match. | Reenter or correct the father's Date of Birth |
| Mother's SSN match, but no Date of Birth match. | Reenter or correct the mother's Date of Birth |
| Father's SSN was not matched with the Social Security Administration | Correct the SSN for the father. Also review and correct (if necessary) the name and/or date of birth. At least one parent must have a complete match. |
| Mother's SSN was not matched with the Social Security Administration | Correct the SSN for the mother. Also review and correct (if necessary) the name and/or date of birth. At least one parent must have a complete match. |
| Dependent student and one of SSN, Last Name or Date of Birth is missing for both parents | Correct the SSN, name, and/or Date of Birth for mother and/or father. At least one parent must have a complete match. |

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| SSN match with Date of Death | <p>Contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) to fix the error. Then reenter the name or date of birth and submit as a correction for an updated SSA match.</p> <p>SSA website: https://www.ssa.gov/</p> |
| Marital Status Issues | |
| Student's marital status date on the initial application is greater than the date the application was signed | If the student's marital status date is after the date the application was originally signed, correct the marital status to single. |
| Missing marital status and number of family members. | <p>If the student is dependent, review and correct Parents' marital status and Parents' number of family members.</p> <p>If the student is independent, review and correct Student's marital status and Students' number of family members.</p> |
| Marital status inconsistent with reported incomes | <p>If the student is dependent, review and correct Parents' marital status or at least one of the following fields: Father's/Stepfather's Income from Work or Mother's/Stepmother's Income from work.</p> <p>If the student is independent, review and correct Student's marital status or at least one of the following fields: Student's Income from work or Spouses Income from work.</p> |
| Household Issues | |
| Unusually high number of family members. | <p>If the student is dependent, reenter or correct the parent's number of family members.</p> <p>If the student is independent, reenter or correct the student's number of family members.</p> |
| Income/Asset Issues | |
| Incomplete FAFSA | <p>If the student is dependent, provide parents' Taxed and Untaxed Income.</p> <p>If the student is independent, provide student and spouse (if married) Taxed and untaxed income.</p> |
| A non-tax filer is reporting an income that is above the IRS filing requirement. | <p>If the student is dependent, review and correct the appropriate set of data from the following:</p> <p>Student's Tax Return Completed status or student income Or Parent's Tax Return Completed status or income for the father and mother.</p> |

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| | <p>If the student is independent, review and correct at least one of the following:</p> <p>Student's Tax Return Completed Status or income for the student and spouse.</p> | |
| Taxes Paid is greater than zero and greater than or equal to a fixed percentage of the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), but not equal to or greater than the AGI. (Parent or Independent Student) | <p>2020-2021 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (If you filed a 1040 = line 13 minus Schedule 2, line 46)</p> | <p>2021-2022 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (1040 = line 14 minus Schedule 2, line 2. If negative, enter zero.)</p> |
| Taxes Paid is greater than zero and greater than or equal to a fixed percentage of the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), but not equal to or greater than the AGI. (Dependent Student) | <p>2020-2021 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (If you filed a 1040 = line 13 minus Schedule 2, line 46)</p> | <p>2021-2022 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (1040 = line 14 minus Schedule 2, line 2. If negative, enter zero.)</p> |
| Student's taxes paid is greater than zero and equal to or greater than AGI. | Correct student's taxes paid or AGI. | |
| | <p>2020-2021 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (If you filed a 1040 = line 13 minus Schedule 2, line 46)</p> <p>AGI: 1040=Line 7</p> | <p>2021-2022 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (If you filed a 1040 = line 14 minus Schedule 2, line 2)</p> <p>AGI: 1040=Line 8b</p> |
| Parent Taxes Paid is greater than zero and equal to or greater than the AGI. | Correct parents' Taxes Paid or AGI. | |
| | <p>2020-2021 FAFSA Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (If you filed a 1040 = line 13 minus Schedule 2, line 46)</p> <p>AGI: 1040=Line 7</p> | <p>2021-2022 FAFSA Taxes paid: Reenter or correct Taxes Paid. (1040 = line 14 minus Schedule 2, line 2. If negative, enter zero.)</p> <p>AGI: 1040=Line 8b</p> |
| The simplified needs test is not met and all asset data is blank. | <p>Dependent Students Provide the following: students/Parents' cash, savings and checking; Students/ Parents' Real Estate/Investment Net Worth and Students'/Parents' Business/Investment Net Worth. Put a zero if it does not apply to you. Do Not leave it blank.</p> <p>Independent Students Provide the following: Student's cash, savings and checking; Student's Real Estate/Investment Net Worth and Student's Business/Investment Net Worth. Put a zero if it does not apply to you. Do Not leave it blank.</p> | |
| Miscellaneous Issues | | |
| Citizenship status left blank and SSA did not confirm citizenship status or applicant reported not a citizen or eligible noncitizen. | Provide the Citizenship Status and the Alien Registration Number if appropriate. | |
| An EFC cannot be calculated because the Department of Justice has placed a "hold" on the student. | Student needs to call 202-377-3889 to resolve this issue. | |

Note: Be sure to review all comments on your processed FAFSA (or SAR) which will be available to you at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> . If your SAR indicates that you have been selected for a process called verification you can go to <https://www.lander.edu/admissions/tuition-financial-aid/forms> and complete Lander's Number in Household/Number in College worksheet.