Texas Higher Education
COORDINATING BOARD

State Financial Aid Monthly Webcast

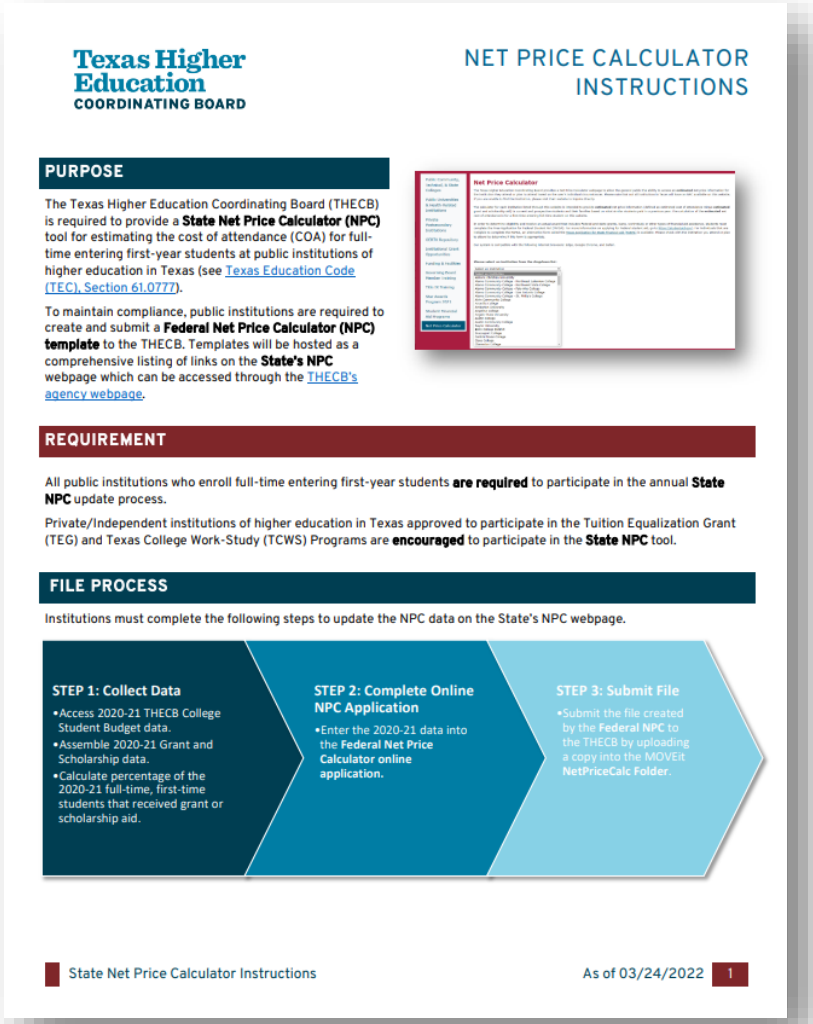
April 20, 2022

Topics of Discussion

- Net Price Calculator
- Authority to Transfer
- 2023-24 TASFA
- Deadlines and Reminders
- Questions

Net Price Calculator

Annual Update



Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

NET PRICE CALCULATOR INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) is required to provide a **State Net Price Calculator (NPC)** tool for estimating the cost of attendance (COA) for full-time entering first-year students at public institutions of higher education in Texas (see Texas Education Code (TEC), Section 61.0777).

To maintain compliance, public institutions are required to create and submit a **Federal Net Price Calculator (NPC) template** to the THECB. Templates will be hosted as a comprehensive listing of links on the **State's NPC** webpage which can be accessed through the THECB's agency webpage.

REQUIREMENT

All public institutions who enroll full-time entering first-year students **are required** to participate in the annual **State NPC** update process.

Private/Independent institutions of higher education in Texas approved to participate in the Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) and Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) Programs are **encouraged** to participate in the **State NPC** tool.

FILE PROCESS

Institutions must complete the following steps to update the NPC data on the State's NPC webpage.

STEP 1: Collect Data
- Access 2020-21 THECB College Student Budget data.
- Assemble 2020-21 Grant and Scholarship data.
- Calculate percentage of the 2020-21 full-time, first-time students that received grant or scholarship aid.

STEP 2: Complete Online NPC Application
- Enter the 2020-21 data into the **Federal Net Price Calculator online application.**

STEP 3: Submit File
- Submit the file created by the **Federal NPC** to the THECB by uploading a copy into the MOVEit **NetPriceCalc Folder**.

State Net Price Calculator Instructions As of 03/24/2022 1

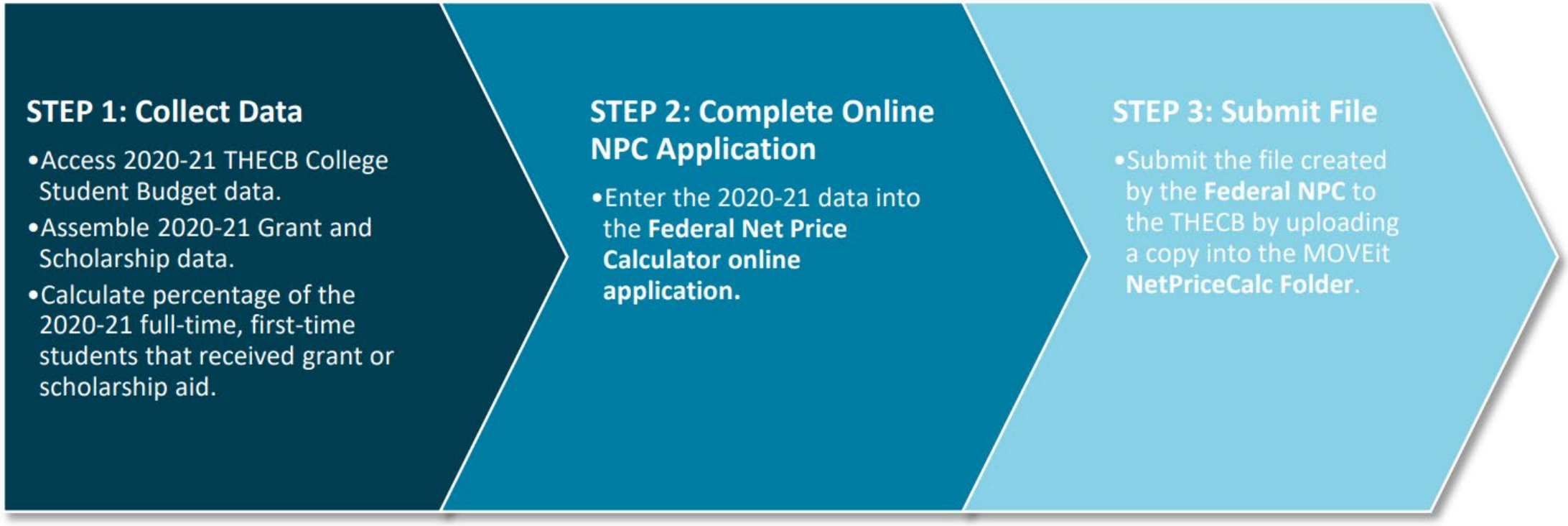
NPC Annual Update:

Memo was sent March 29, 2022

- Each public institution that enrolls full time entering first-year students is ***required*** submit a file to the THECB for the State's NPC tool used for estimating the cost of attendance (COA).
- Instructions are available on the Student Financial Aid Programs webpage and provide each of the steps necessary to submit the NPC file to the THECB.

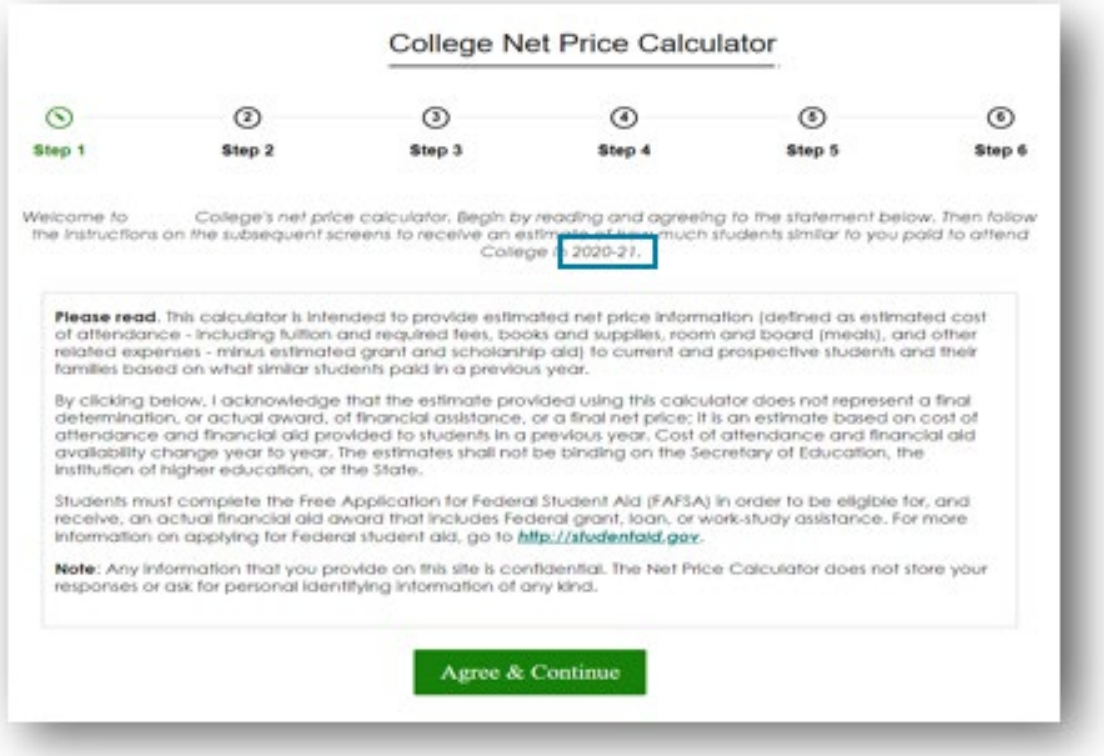
Deadline April 29, 2022

NPC Update Process



NPC Reminders

- Complete the 2020-21 federal NPC template.
- Upload the **Index file**, *not* the zip file into MOVEit.
- A message will be displayed for the user if the institution is **not** participating.
- To confirm that the file has been uploaded:
  - ✓ Visiting the State's NPC webpage.
  - ✓ Click on the applicable institution and select ***submit*** to display a link to the file.
  - ✓ Once launched, ensure the award year displayed is 2020-21.



Watch the March 2021 Webcast for step-by-step video instruction.

Authority to Transfer

New Process

Authority to Transfer

Institutions participating in state grant programs and the Texas Work-Study programs, may be eligible to use the Authority to Transfer Funds process.

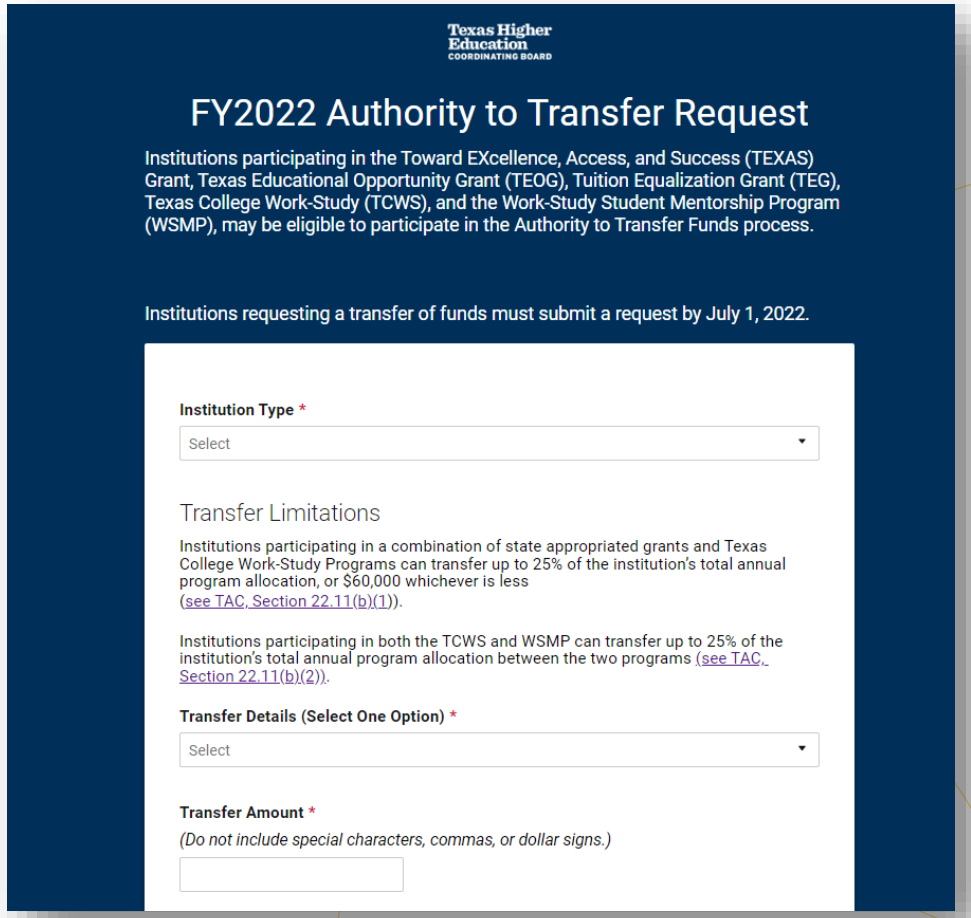
Prior Process

- Transfer requests were submitted online through CONTACT US. Institutions were emailed a fillable PDF form to sign and return to the THECB.

New Process

- Memo was sent April 12, 2022.
- Transfer requests must be submitted using the new online request form to initiate the process.

Deadline July 1, 2022



Authority to Transfer

Transfer Limitations

- Institutions participating in a combination of state appropriated grants and Texas College Work-Study Programs can transfer up to 25% of the institution's total annual program allocation, or $60,000 whichever is less (see TAC, Section 22.11(b)(1)).
- Institutions participating in both the TCWS and WSMP can transfer up to 25% of the institution's total annual program allocation between the two programs (see TAC, Section 22.11(b)(2)).

Note: An amendment to the rules will be reviewed for approval during the THECB's quarterly Board meeting being held on April 28, 2022. If approved, the rule will reflect this amendment in May 2022.

2023-24 TASFA

Highlights

TASFA Updates

Development

- Online TASFA is developed and functional.
- Refining the skip logic, error validations and cosmetic changes.

Data Transmission

- File layout will be sent to institutions by beginning of May.
- Test files for institutions will be loaded into MOVEit in the coming months.
- Working on the transmission of TASFA completion status into ApplyTX Counselor Suite to meet the high school graduation requirement.

Marketing & Training

- Agency's Communication Team released a TASFA blog post for K-12.
- Collaborating on the webpage design and content which will be built on the new agency website.
- Texas OnCourse is helping to develop training and resource information to help with the launch.

Testing

- Internal user acceptance testing (UAT) is in progress.
- External UAT will be completed over the summer.
- Testers are composed of TASFA Committee members.

TASFA Clarifications

THECB Creating Sole TASFA

- Beginning with the financial aid application cycle for academic year 2023-2024 and thereafter:
  - The online TASFA available through the ApplyTexas website **is the sole, acceptable online TASFA**. All institutions participating in state financial aid programs must accept the data generated by the completion of this online TASFA.
  - The TASFA document available through the ApplyTexas website **is the sole, acceptable printable version** of the TASFA, which institutions may accept from applicants who do not have access to the necessary technology to complete the online TASFA.

Note: An amendment to the rules will be reviewed for approval during the THECB's quarterly Board meeting being held on April 28, 2022. If approved, the rule will reflect this amendment in May 2022.

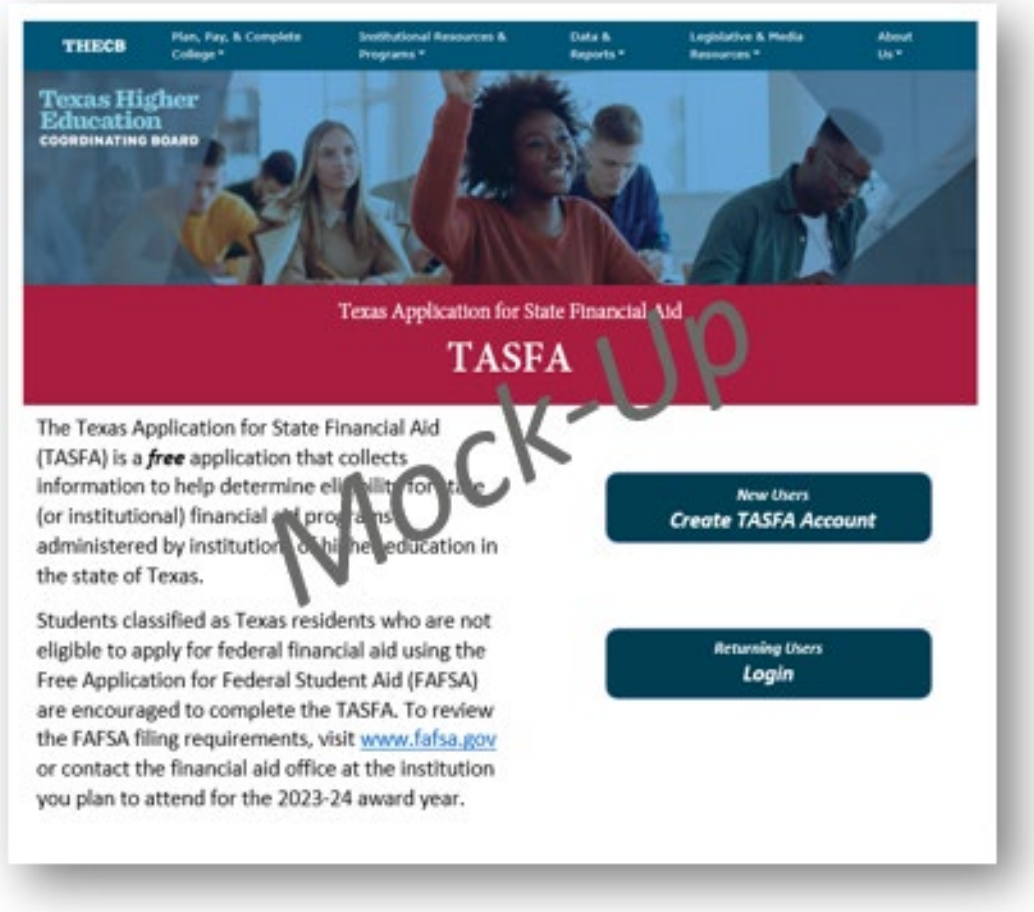
Online TASFA Launching October 2022

- The **online TAFSA** will launch for the **2023-24** academic year and subsequent years.
  - Students needing to fill out a TASFA for the **2022-23** academic year will need to fill out the paper TASFA.
- The online TASFA will only be available in **English** for the application launch; the **Spanish** will only be available as a **PDF**.
  - Other languages will be considered for future releases**.**
- The online TASFA will not generate an EFC but will transmit the data collected to institution.

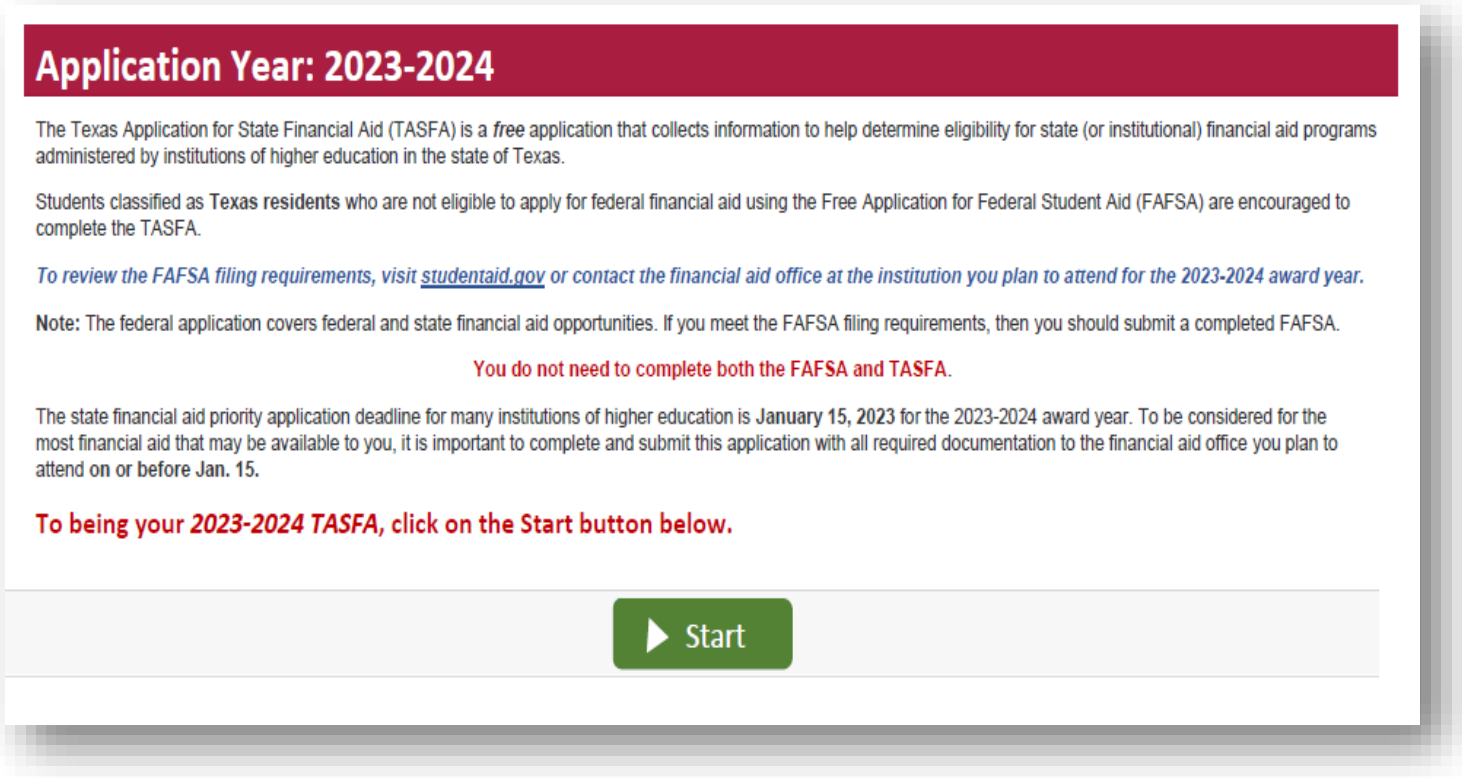
TASFA Landing Page

Will be located on the THECB website:

- Allows new users to access the registration page.
- Allows returning users to access the login screen.
- Clarifies for users if they should fill out the TASFA or FAFSA.
- Includes Frequently Asked Questions and other resources.



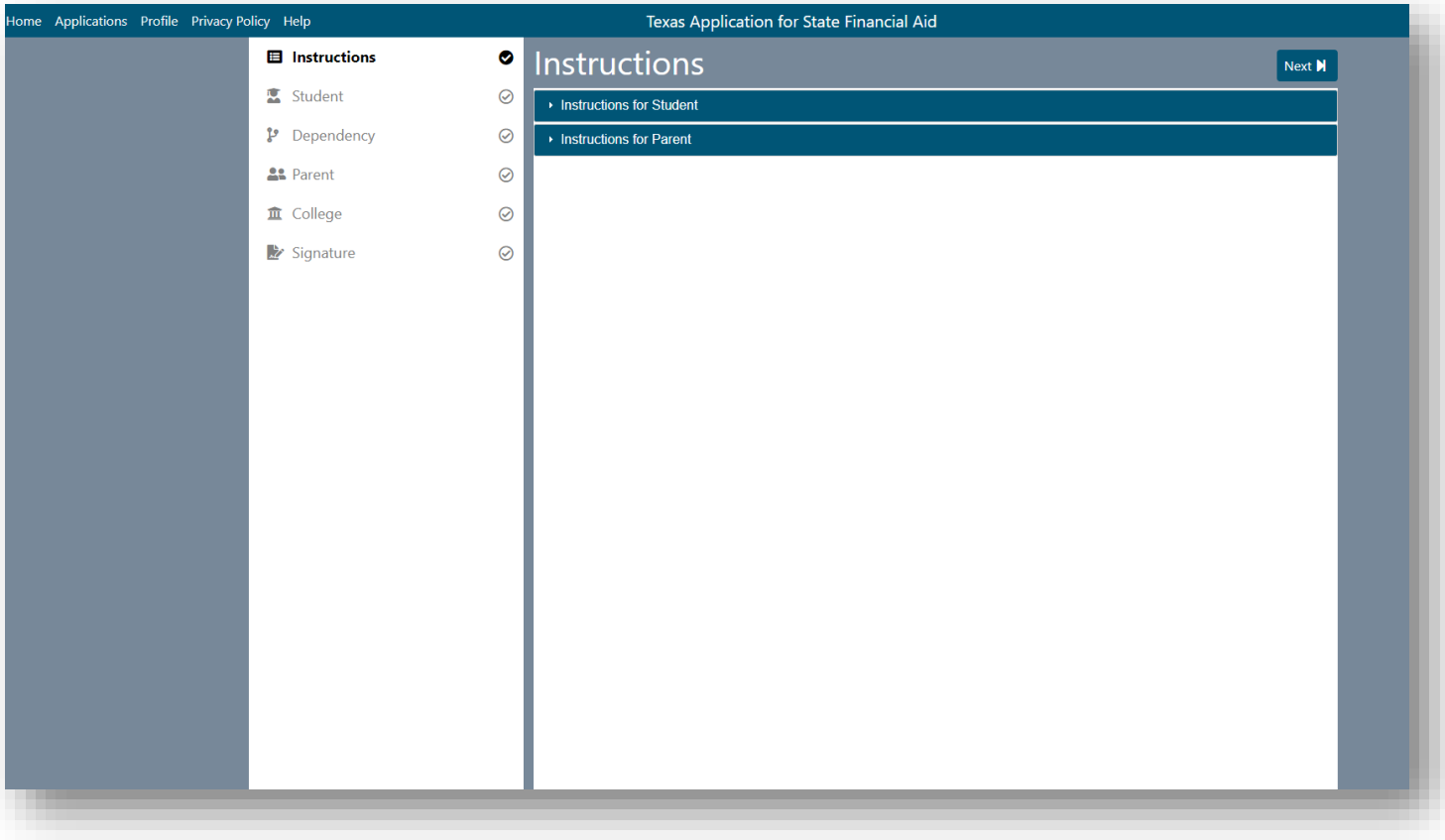
Application Page



Highlights

- Includes basic TASFA eligibility information.
- Guides students to FAFSA, if applicable.
- Multiple award years will be hosted when the application periods overlap.
- The user can download and print the application as a PDF on this page, once the application is completed.

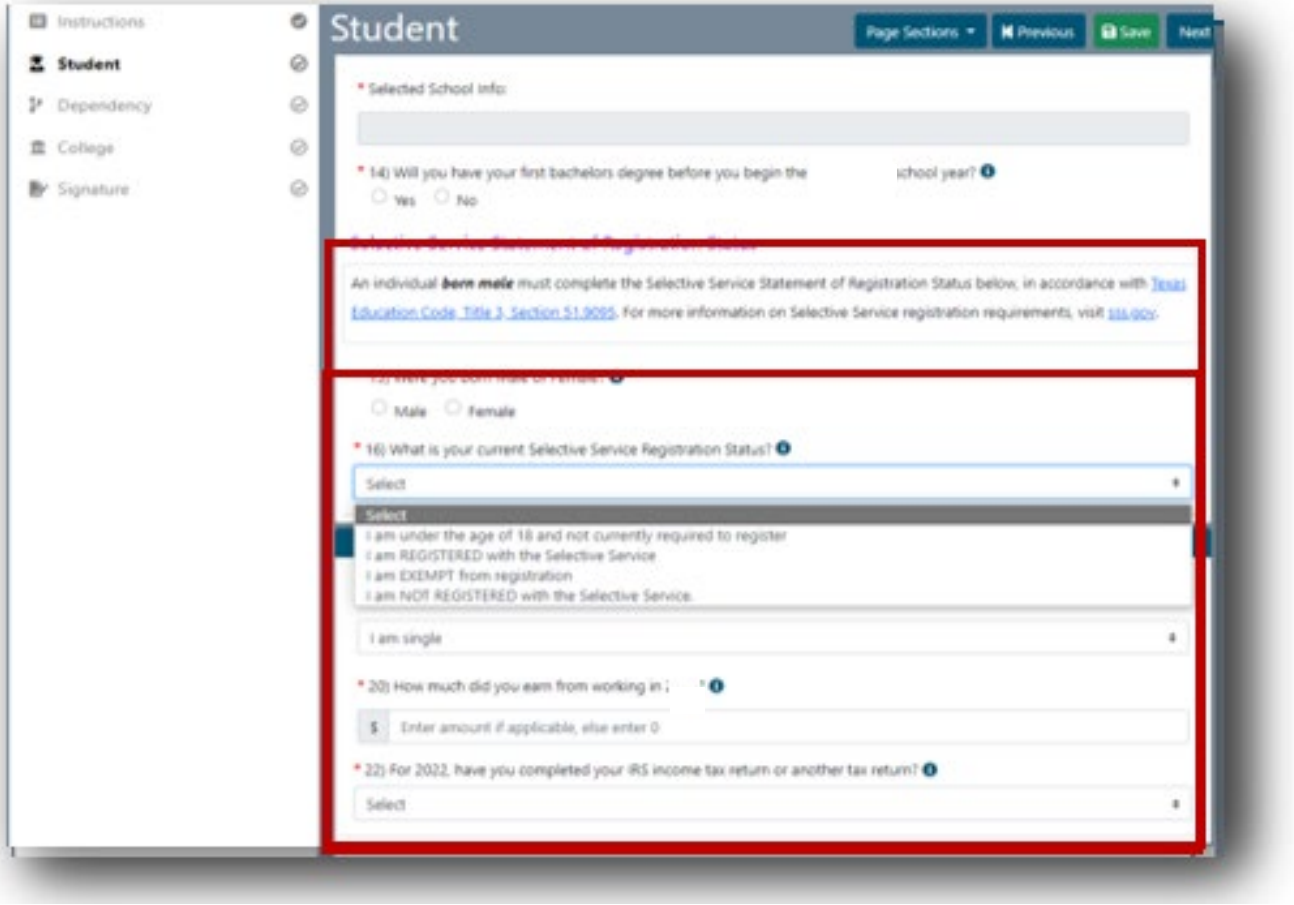
Instructions



Highlights

- Expandable instructions will be displayed to help guide the applicant through the basic requirements for the online form.
- The instructions also clarify what to expect for skip logic and when a parent's information will be needed.

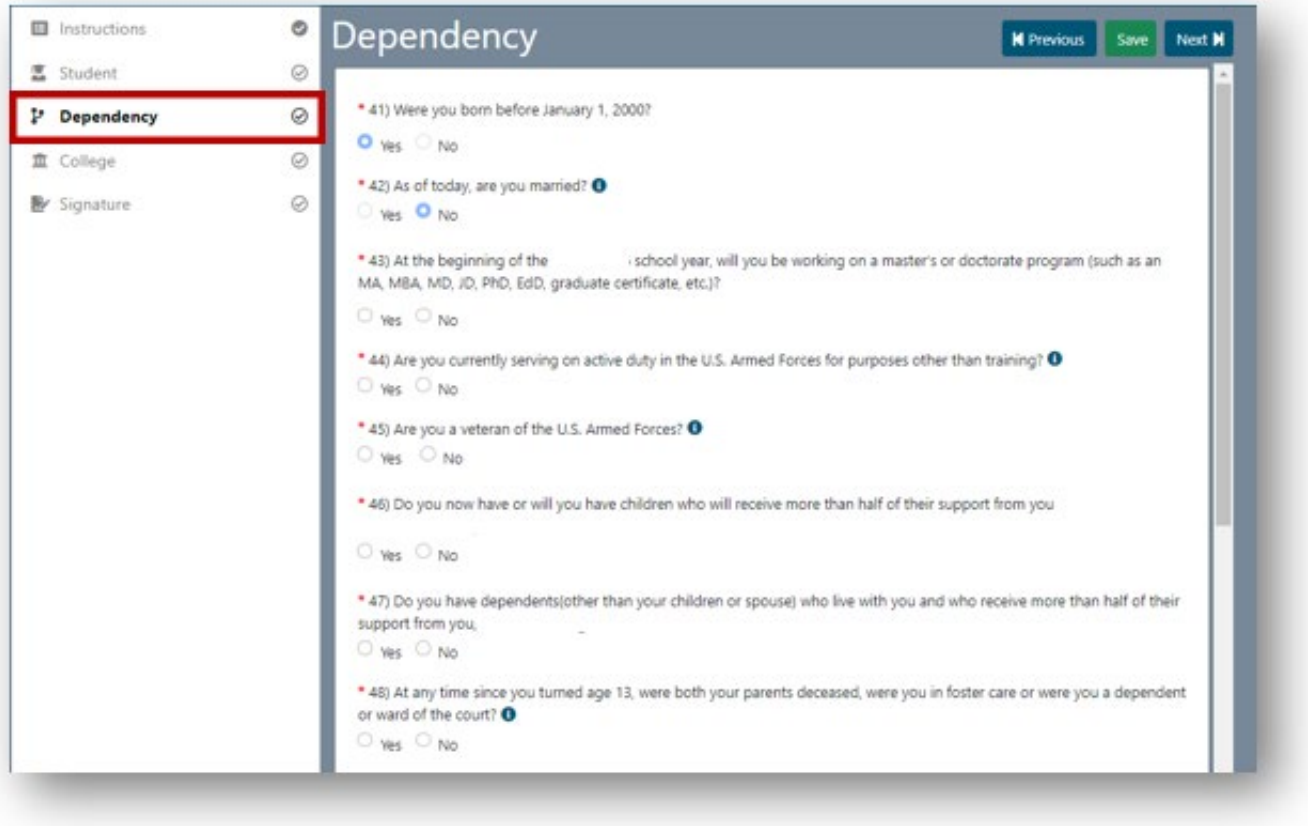
Student Tab



Highlights

- Student Tab has 3 sections:
  - Personal Information
  - Income and Assets
  - Federal Benefits and Household
- High School is collected to report completion status for seniors to meet the graduation requirement.
- Selective Service Statement of Registration Status is included in Online TASFA.

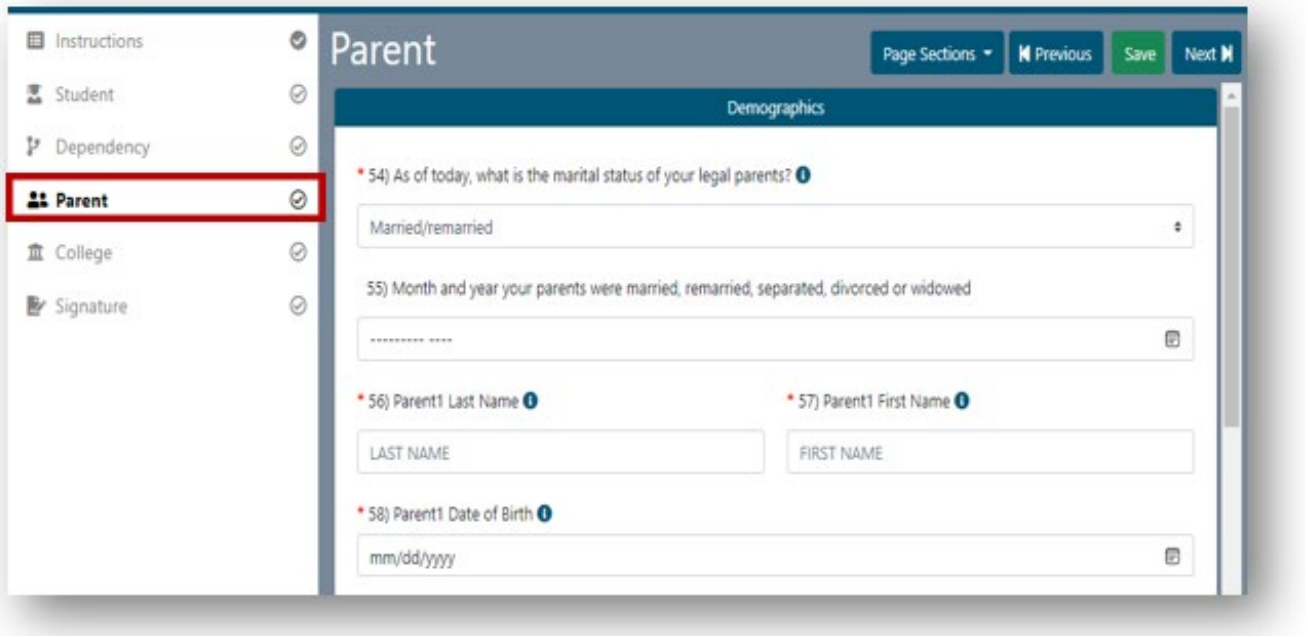
Dependency Tab



Highlights

- Skip logic is built in to populate the answers for date of birth and marital status from Student tab selections.
- Parent tab and parent signature will display based on the dependency determination.

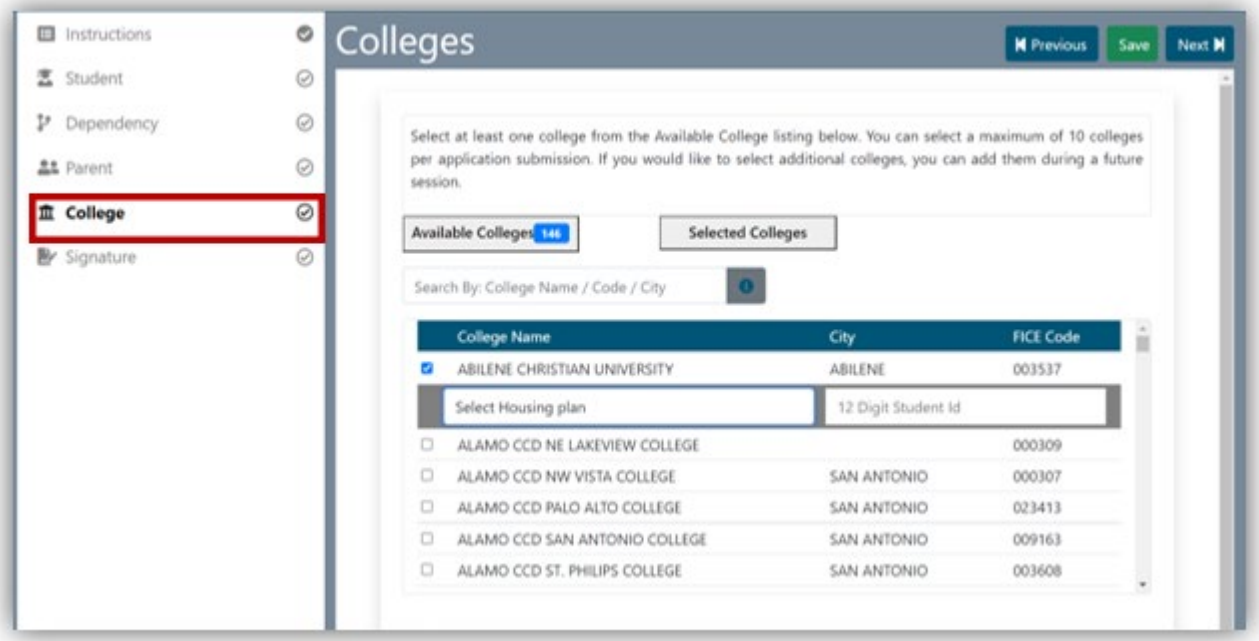
Parent Tab



Highlights

- Includes skip logic based on marital status selected for parent.
- Parent email generates the link to allow them to electronically sign.

College Tab

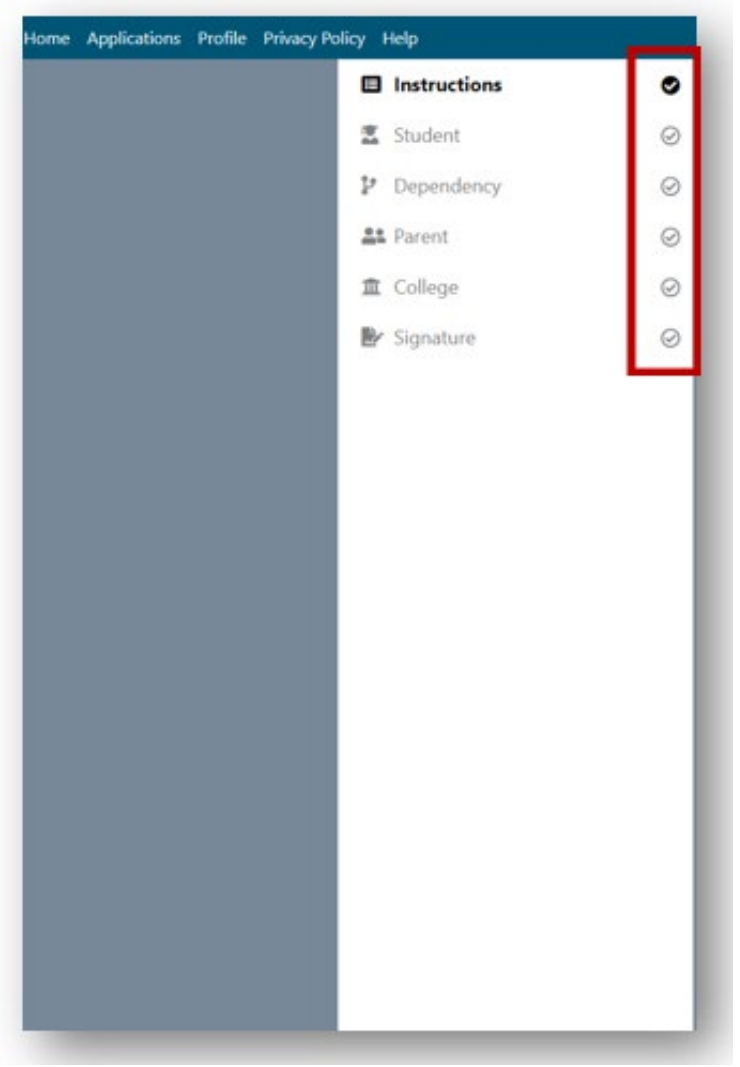


Highlights

- Requires a user to select **at least one** college in order to submit.
- Allows **up to 10** colleges.
- Requires the housing status for each college selected and an optional college ID to help with record validation at the institution

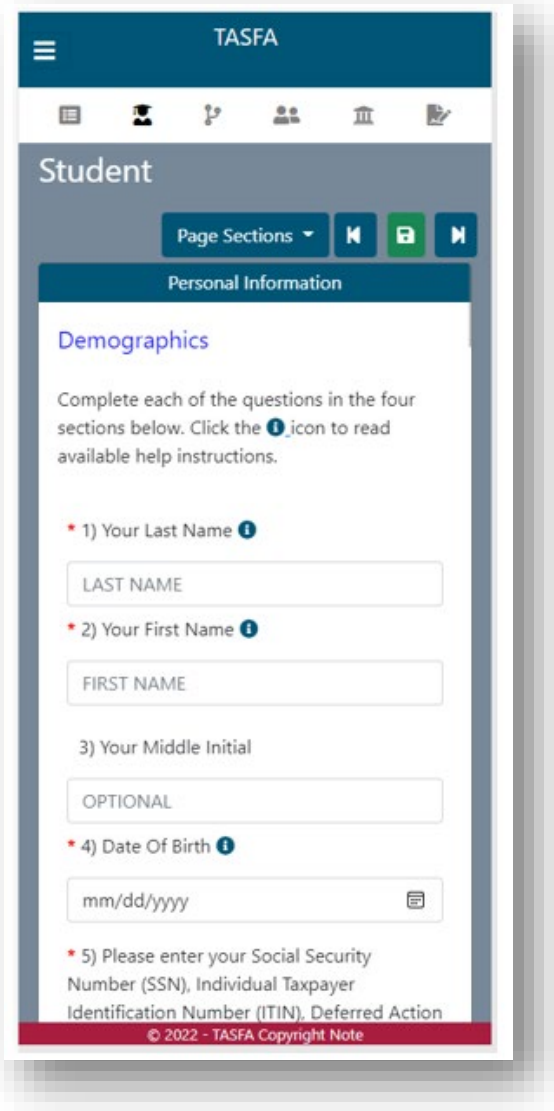
Features

- Status indicators to show application progress



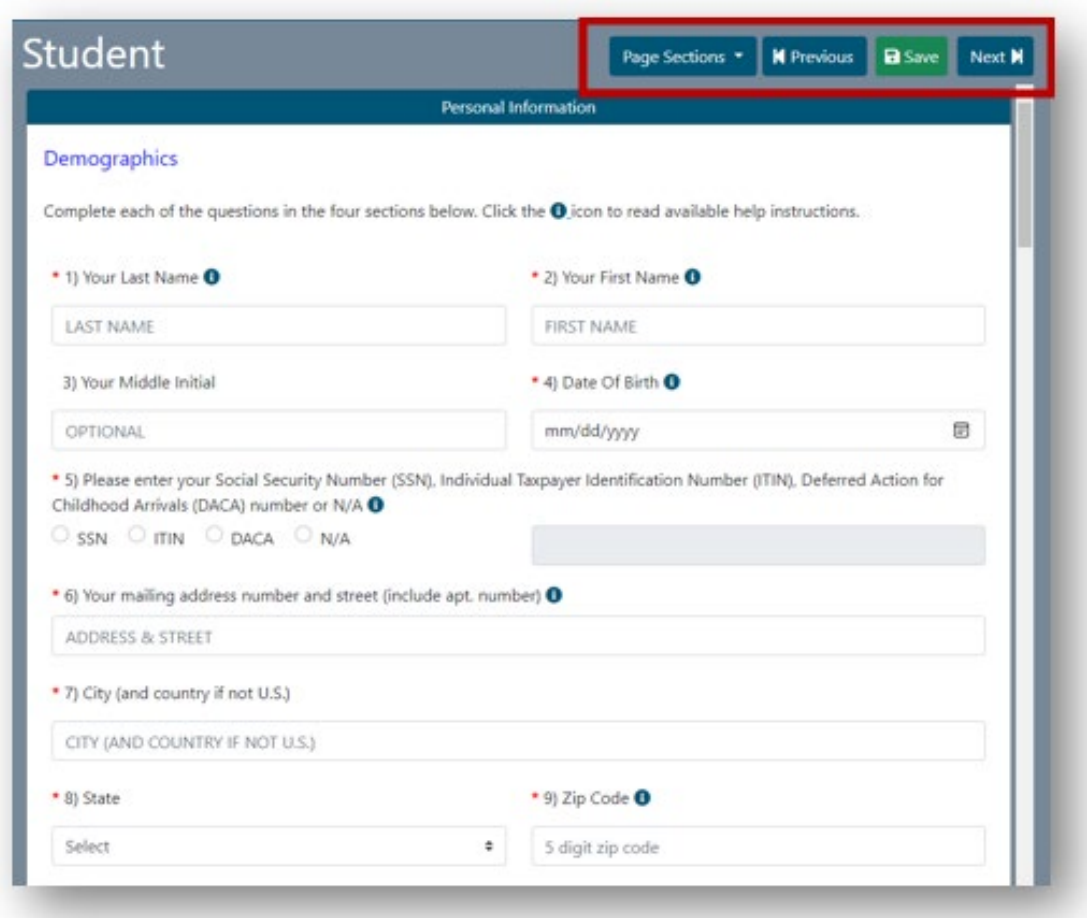
Features

- Status indicators to show application progress
- Application is dynamic so it will adjust to the device being used



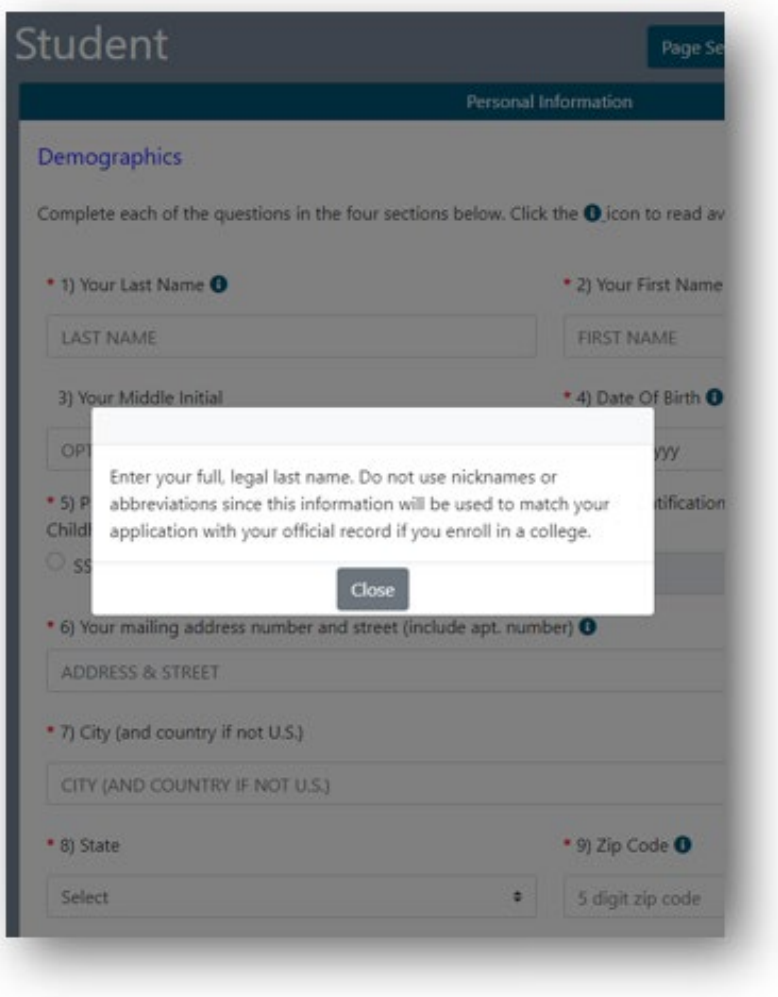
Features

- Status indicators to show application progress
- Application is dynamic so it will adjust to the device being used
- Navigation buttons



Features

- Status indicators to show application progress
- Application is dynamic so it will adjust to the device being used
- Navigation buttons
- Help icons provide additional clarification on most fields



Deadlines and Reminders

Deadlines and Reminders

Deadlines

- Net Price Calculator – April 29, 2022
- Authority to Transfer – July 1, 2022

Coming Soon

- FY 2023 Program Guidelines
- 10-Day Review for Preliminary Allocations (will be sent to the Director)
- Summer Institutional Calendar
- TEG Engagement Guide

General Reminders

- Financial Aid Database - Cycle One – Deadline was April 11, 2022
- Texas Transfer Grant Interagency Contracts for Public Institutions – Deadline was April 15, 2022
- TCWS Summer Awards are Approved for FY 2022

Contact Student Financial Aid Programs

The following phone lines are available for borrower and the public:

Borrower Services

- Student Borrowers (Cosigners): **(800) 242-3062**

Texas Financial Aid Information Center

- Public Line: **(888) 311-8881**

Contact Financial Aid Services in one of the following ways:

FAS Institutional Phone Line

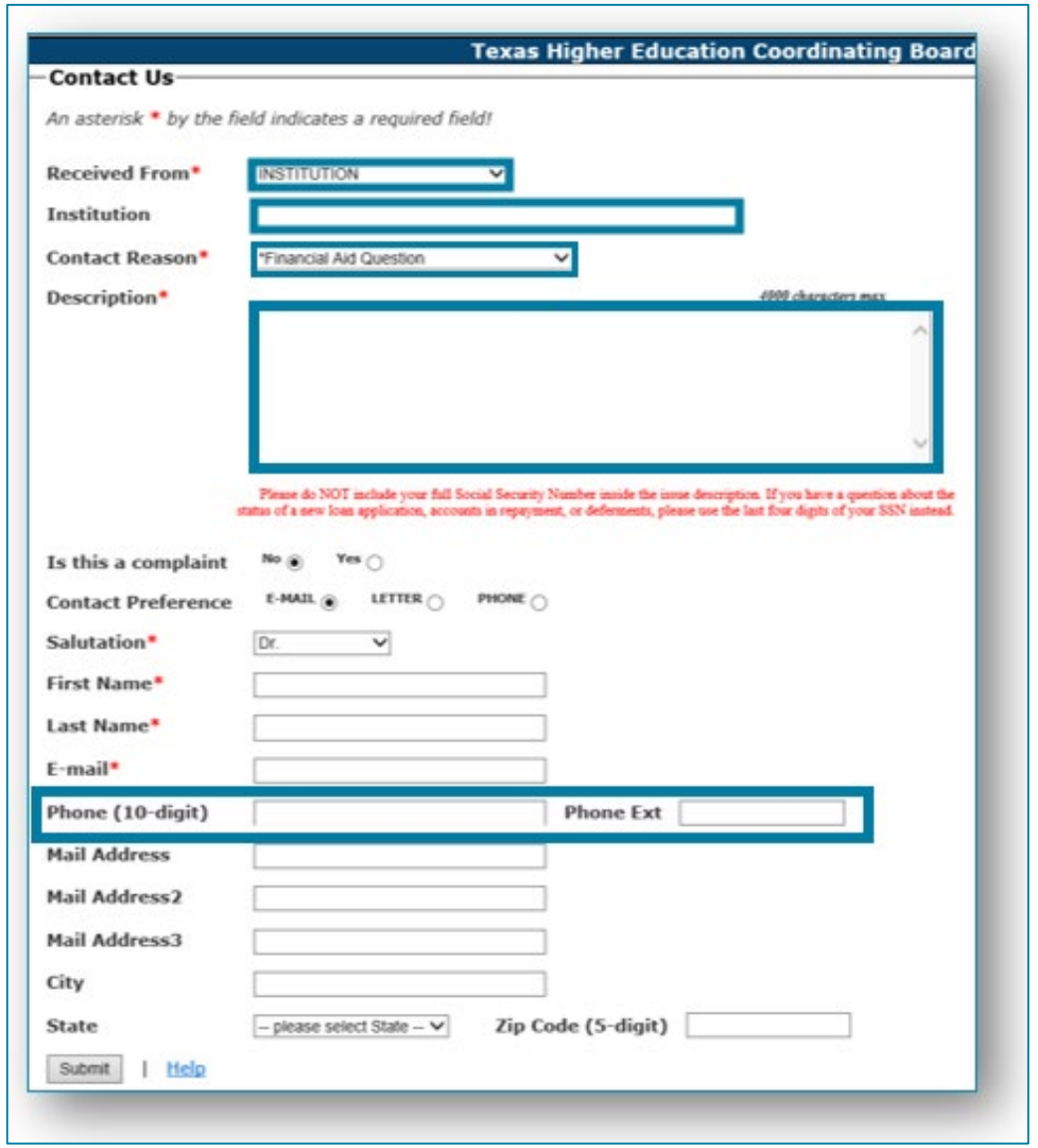
- Institutions Only: **(844) 792-2640**

Submit inquiries online through the CONTACT US web form.

Phone lines –
Hours of Operation:
Mon-Fri
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Closed 12-1 daily)

Submit a CONTACT US

- **To ensure inquiries are routed correctly, complete these steps:**
  - Select "**Institution**" in Received From box
  - Enter the institution's full name
  - Always select "**Financial Aid Question**" as the Contact Reason
  - Provide the best **direct phone number**



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Questions?