

The logo features a stylized orange hand holding a blue map of Mississippi. An orange arrow points downwards from the top of the map.

MISSISSIPPI  
OFFICE *of*  
STUDENT  
FINANCIAL AID

# Game Changers: State Aid Update

MASFAA Fall Training

November 12, 2025

# K1: Who may be eligible for MTAG?

- Non-residents.
- **Millionaires.**
- Max Pell recipients.
- **People who don't complete the FAFSA.**

# K2: I have a 21 ACT and 2.4 GPA. What state aid can I get?

- **Nothing, you don't qualify.**
- MTAG.
- MESG.
- HELP.

**K3: I did the MAAPP in February, but Mom hasn't finished the FAFSA. It's April 15. Did I miss the HELP deadline?**

- Yes, I'm so sorry.
- **No, you still have a little time.**



# Primary Undergraduate Grants



- Need: HELP – Higher Education Legislative Plan Grant
  - Requirements: MS Resident; FAFSA (Pell-eligible); Income; 20 ACT; 2.5 GPA; HELP Core Curriculum; Full-time*
  - Award: Full tuition for 4 years*
- Residency: MTAG – Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant
  - Requirements: MS Resident; NOT max Pell; 15 ACT; 2.5 GPA; Full-time*
  - Award: F/S \$500; J/S \$1,000; 4 years*
- Merit: MESG – Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant
  - Requirements: MS Resident; 29 ACT; 3.5 GPA; Fulltime*
  - Award: \$2,500 for 4 years*

[www.msfinancialaid.org](http://www.msfinancialaid.org)



# Other Undergraduate Grants

- ✦ FAITH – Fostering Access and Inspiring True Hope Scholarship
  - ✦ *Requirements: MS Resident; FAFSA; Under Age 25; Meet 1 of 3 Foster Youth Definitions; Maintain SAP and 2.0 GPA; Half-time*
  - ✦ *Award: Up to COA for 5 years*
- ✦ LAW – MS Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Scholarship
  - ✦ *Requirements: MS Residency: Child (under age 23) or Spouse of Deceased/Disabled Officer or Firefighter; Maintain 2.5 GPA; Full-time*
  - ✦ *Award: Full tuition and housing; 4 years*
- ✦ NISS – Nissan Scholarship

[www.msfinancialaid.org](http://www.msfinancialaid.org)





# Other Programs

## ➤ Graduate Loans:

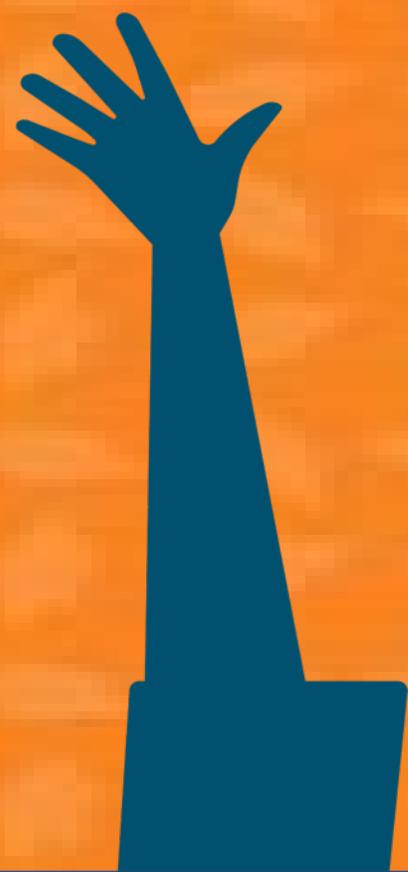
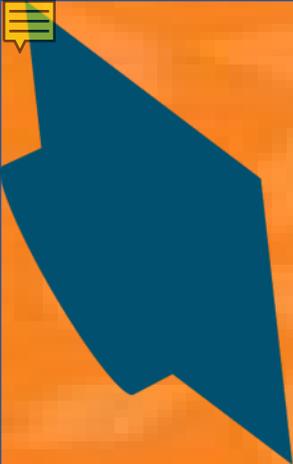
- CNDT – Critical Needs Dyslexia Therapy Forgivable Loan
- SLPL – Speech-Language Pathologist Forgivable Loan
- SREB – SREB Regional Contract Forgivable Loan – Optometry

## ➤ Loan Repayment:

- NULR – Nurse Retention Loan Repayment (licensed nurses)
- WRTR – Winter-Reed Teacher Loan Repayment (licensed teachers)

[www.msfinancialaid.org](http://www.msfinancialaid.org)





# Budget News

FY 2026 Appropriation  
FY 2026 Budget  
Changes Impacting Budget

# K4: How much is the state aid budget in 25-26?

- \$53 Million
- \$58 Million
- **\$62 Million**
- \$65 Million

# FY 2026 SFA Appropriation

Source

Amount

## SFA Appropriation: SB 2008 (1<sup>st</sup> ES)

General Funds \$ 47,255,243

FY24 & FY 25 General Funds Carryover \$ 6,550,322

New EEF (FAITH & WRTR) \$ 3,000,000

Special Funds-Collections/Investments \$ 1,433,515

Reappropriated FY 25 Special Funds \$ 250,000

**Subtotal \$ 58,489,080**

**Coronavirus Relief Funds for NULR \$ 3,440,139**

**TOTAL \$ 61,929,219**

# FY 2026 Budget

Allocation	Awards	Amount
<b>Total Administration</b>		<b>\$ 1,576,740</b>
MTAG	17,017	\$ 9,954,945
MESG	3,844	\$ 8,772,008
HELP	<u>4,301</u>	<u>\$ 32,150,860</u>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>25,162</b>	<b>\$ 50,877,813</b>
<b>Total Forgivable Loans &amp; WRTR</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>\$ 2,321,440</b>
<b>Total Other Programs</b>	<u><b>289</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 3,713,087</b></u>
	<b>Subtotal SFA</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 58,489,080</u></u></b>
<b>NULR</b>	<u><b>333</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 3,440,139</b></u>
	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 61,929,219</b>

**K5: What is the expected income threshold for HELP in 2026 (numbers)?**

- **\$42,500**



**HELP**  
**Income**  
**Threshold**  
**Changes**

\$42,500 Income Threshold in Code

Threshold Capped at \$39,500 in  
Appropriation Bills

Threshold Cap Removed in FY 2026  
Appropriation Bill

Change Expected to Increase  
Awards \$2.5M for 350 Recipients

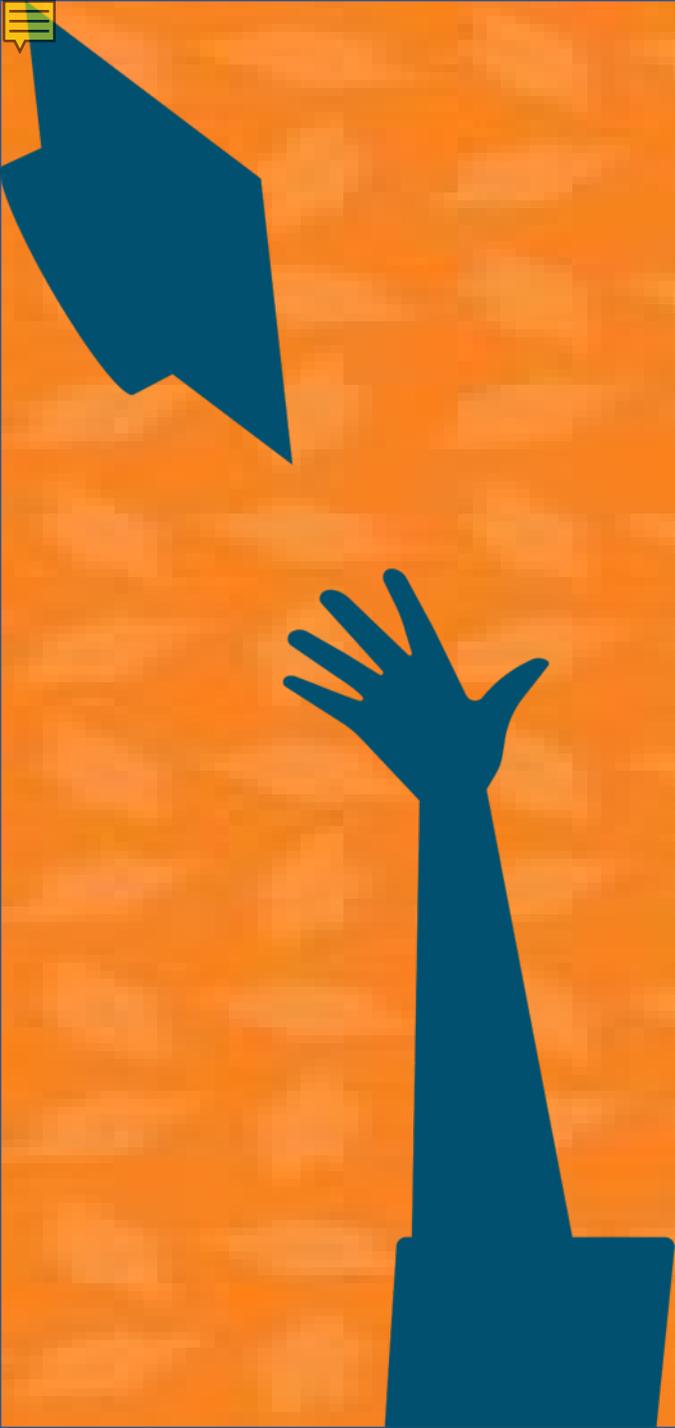
# K6: How many credit hours does a student have to take each semester to keep state aid?

- 9.
- **12.**
- 15.
- 18.

# Full-Time Enrollment Changes

- Undergraduate Grants Requiring Full-Time Enrollment:
  - MTAG
  - MESH
  - HELP
  - LAW
  - NISS
- Full-Time Enrollment Definition for State Aid:
  - 15 Credit Hours per Term (since 2016-17)
  - 12 Credit Hours per Term (beginning 2025-26)
- Expected increase of \$2.5M for 3,800 students



A teal graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a hand with fingers spread, reaching upwards from a rectangular base. Above the hand is a speech bubble pointing towards the top left corner. The background is a solid orange color.

# MAAPP Changes

New MAAPP Landing Page

New SSN Check

Institutional ID Field

Updated Metrics on Dashboard

“Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH

Dependency Status Verification

# New MAAPP Landing Page



2026-2027

AID YEAR APPLICATION

## WHERE DO I APPLY?

Are you an undergraduate or graduate student seeking financial aid?

[Submit the Mississippi Aid Application \(MAAPP\).](#)

Are you a licensed classroom teacher working full-time in a Mississippi public or charter school and seeking loan repayment?

[Learn more and apply for the Winter-Reed Teacher Loan Repayment Program \(WRTR\).](#)

Are you a licensed practical or registered nurse working full-time in an eligible Mississippi hospital or nursing home and seeking loan repayment?

[Learn more and apply for the Nurse Retention Loan Repayment \(NULR\).](#)

If you're unsure which program applies to you, please visit [www.msfinancialaid.org](http://www.msfinancialaid.org) for program information.

# New SSN Check

**WAIT! Check the Social Security Number** ✕

Check the Social Security Number you entered for accuracy. Entering an incorrect SSN or an SSN belonging to someone other than the applicant could delay the completion of your application and the awarding of state financial aid.

XXX-XX-1111 Show SSN

Go Back Yes, the SSN is Correct

**MISSISSIPPI AID APPLICATION** 6-2027  
MISSISSIPPI AID APPLICATION YEAR APPLICATION

**APPLICATION**  
Applica

\* Denotes a required field

First Name \*  
Norman

Last Name \*  
Normal

Preferred First Name  
Norm

Date of Birth \*  
01/01/2008

Social Security Number \*  
\*\*\*-\*\*-1111

Confirm Social Security Number \*  
\*\*\*-\*\*-1111

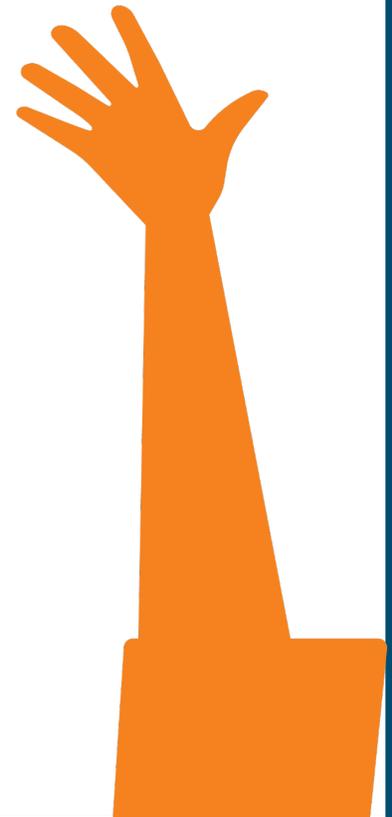
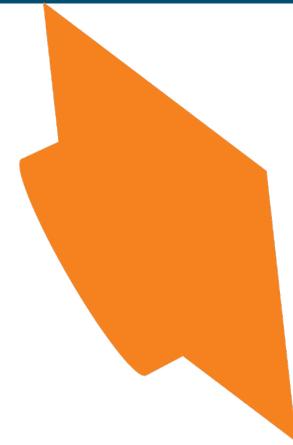
Next ↻

# K7: What new field was added to SFA reports and MAAPP?

- Institutional ID

# Institutional ID Field

- Institutional ID field added to all SFA reports: Grade, Enrollment, Award, Disbursement
- Institution provides ID in designated field on SFA reports
- ID is stored in Oracle
- When provided by institution, ID appears on all future SFA reports and in MAAPP
- Searchable in MAAPP



# Institutional ID Field

Jennifer Rogers  
Pin: 5BQHA0Yg  
Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM

- Dashboard
- Students
- Awards
- Reports
- Activity Log
- Participation Agreement
- Settings

## Institution Report

Export Report

**Search**

**SSN Last Four**

**Date of Birth**

**MAAPP Start Date**

**MAAPP End Date**

**Aid Year**

**Missing Document Type**

**Application Type**

Reset Search

Aid Year	ID	Name	SSN Last Four	Student Institution ID	Date of Birth	Institution Name	MAAPP Date	Other Docs	FAFSA Status	Grade Verification	Enrollment Verification	FAITH Award Information
2026-2027	11478196	<a href="#">Aboubaker, Amer</a>	1216	N/A	01/01/2006	Hinds Community College	10/03/2025	Still Needed	Received	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11477497	<a href="#">Acy, Gage</a>	093	N/A	11/22/2007	Hinds Community College	10/01/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	10766670	<a href="#">Adams, Aaliyah</a>	2346	N/A	10/05/1994	Hinds Community College	10/01/2025	Received	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11390197	<a href="#">Adams, Alli</a>	5835	N/A	07/01/2004	Hinds Community College	10/19/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11374076	<a href="#">Adams, Bayleah</a>	2852	N/A	07/17/2007	Hinds Community College	10/24/2025	Received	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11477805	<a href="#">Adams, Caleb</a>	0444	N/A	02/01/2007	Hinds Community College	10/02/2025	Still Needed	Received	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11486192	<a href="#">Adams, Dalton</a>	7110	N/A	08/04/2008	Hinds Community College	11/09/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11485981	<a href="#">Adams, Gabrielle</a>	570	N/A	03/04/2008	Hinds Community College	11/06/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11480784	<a href="#">Adams, Javionna</a>	2035	N/A	06/24/2008	Hinds Community College	10/20/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11445687	<a href="#">Adams, Morgan</a>	3493	N/A	12/05/2007	Hinds Community College	10/23/2025	Still Needed	Received	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2026-2027	11377429	<a href="#">Adams, Victoria</a>	9582	N/A	11/14/2006	Multiple	10/20/2025	Received	Still Needed	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable



# New Metrics on Dashboard

Jenniter Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Dashboard

Upload Documents

Update Student Information

Search By SSN

Aid Year

Update Type

GO!

615

2026-2027 COMPLETED MAAPP APPLICATIONS

536

2026-2027 STUDENTS WITH MISSING DOCUMENTS

0

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

GRADE VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

FAITH AWARD INFORMATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

3

DEPENDENCY STATUS VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

2026-2027

2025-2026

0

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL PAID AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL OFFERED AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types



# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: SBQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Dashboard

Upload Documents

Update Student Information

Search By SSN

Aid Year

Update Type

GO!

615

2026-2027 COMPLETED MAAPP APPLICATIONS

536

2026-2027 STUDENTS WITH MISSING DOCUMENTS

0

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

GRADE VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

14

FAITH AWARD INFORMATION REQUESTS

2025-2026

3

DEPENDENCY STATUS VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL PAID AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL OFFERED AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types



# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Institution Report

Export Report

Search

SSN Last Four

Date of Birth

MAAPP Start Date

MAAPP End Date

Aid Year

Missing Document Type

Application Type

Reset

Search

Aid Year	ID	Name	SSN Last Four	Student Institution ID	Date of Birth	Institution Name	MAAPP Date	Other Docs	FAFSA Status
2025-2026	11345074	<a href="#">Abraham, Muzit</a>	8668	N/A	12/15/2002	Hinds Community College	11/21/2024	Still Needed	Received
2025-2026	11346146	<a href="#">Bunton, Aukhyli</a>	3465	N/A	01/13/2005	Hinds Community College	08/12/2025	Received	Received
2025-2026	11255494	<a href="#">Catchings, Alexis</a>	0272	N/A	10/07/2002	Hinds Community College	01/02/2025	Still Needed	Received
2025-2026	11391318	<a href="#">Fleming, Jaggone</a>	0912	N/A	08/06/2004	Hinds Community College	12/09/2024	Still Needed	Received
2025-2026	11306768	<a href="#">Hobson, Audrey</a>	0702	N/A	05/19/2004	Hinds Community College	12/27/2024	Still Needed	Received
2025-2026	11403465	<a href="#">Hoover, Jayna</a>	7454	N/A	03/20/2006	Hinds Community College	03/09/2025	Received	Received



# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Student Details

Turner, Brooke (bturner26)

(DOB: 4/1/2008)

Overview Applicant **Academic** FERPA Documents Awards Enrollment Grades Package Messages

Select Aid Year

2025-2026

Update Enrollment Information

Update Grade Information

Update Award Package

### MILESTONES

✓ MAAPP Submitted on 2/24/2025 ?

— Program(s) Applied For:

- FAITH
- Undergraduate Grants

✓ FAFSA Submitted ?

○ Student Documents Received ?

✓ Counselor Documents Received ?

✓ Awards Offered ?

### MISSING DOCUMENTS

[View All](#)

[Faith Disclosure](#)

Still Needed

[Faith Awarding Info](#)

Missing

### RECENT MESSAGES

[View All](#)

**FAITH Award**

7/3/2025

You have been offered the FAITH Scholarship for the 25-26 academic year. This is a proj...

**MTAG FULL PELL**

3/10/2025

Your FAFSA indicates that you may be eligible for the maximum Pell Grant. Max Pell Gr...

**Student Independ Verify**

3/10/2025

Per your FAFSA application you indicated that your parent(s) is deceased, you are in fos...

**FAITH Documents**

2/24/2025

You have applied for the FAITH Scholarship. You must complete the FAFSA to be eligibl...



POWERED BY nsparc  
A PART OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Student Details

Turner, Brooke (bturner26)

(DOB: 4/1/2008)

Overview Applicant Academic FERPA Documents Awards Enrollment Grades **Package** Messages

Select Aid Year

2025-2026

Certified Eligible by MDCPS on 03/13/2025

Fall 2025, Hinds Community College

Add Award Package



# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



- Dashboard
- Students**
- Awards
- Reports
- Activity Log
- Participation Agreement
- Settings

POWERED BY **nsparc**  
A UNIT OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## Student Details

Turner, Brooke (bturner26)

(DOB: 4/1/2008)

Overview Applicant Academic FERPA Documents Awards Enrollment Grades **Package** Messages

Select Aid Year

2025-2026

Certified Eligible by MDCPS on 03/13/2025

Fall 2025, Hinds Community College

Please update fields below.

Cancel

Save

\* Denotes a required field

Term \*

Fall 2025

Enrolled \*

No

I certify that the above information is true and correct for the student listed \*

Cancel

Save

Add Award Package

# “Not Enrolled” Checkbox for FAITH



Jennifer Rogers  
Pin: 5BQHA0Yg  
Financial Aid Administrator - Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM

- Dashboard
- Students**
- Awards
- Reports
- Activity Log
- Participation Agreement
- Settings

## Student Details

Turner, Brooke (bturner26)  
(DOB: 4/1/2008)

Overview Applicant Academic FERPA Documents Awards Enrollment Grades **Package** Messages

Certified Eligible by MDCPS on 03/03/2025

Fall 2025, Hinds Community College

Please update fields below.

\* Denotes a required field

Term \*  
Fall 2025

Enrolled \*  
Yes

Total Term Cost of Attendance \*  
\$

Tuition/Required Fees \*  
\$

Housing \*  
\$

Food \*  
\$

Books/Supplies \*  
\$

Personal/Miscellaneous \*  
\$

Travel/Transportation \*  
\$

Other  
\$

Grant Aid from All Sources \*  
\$

Additional Holiday Room/Board Cost  
\$

I certify that the above information is true and correct for the student listed \*

Cancel Save

Select Aid Year  
2025-2026

Cancel Save

Add Award Package



# K8: What should you do if you get a Dependency Status Verification request in MAAPP?

- A. Pull the student for verification.
- **B. Provide the student's dependency status to SFA.**
- Both A and B
- Neither A nor B

# Dependency Status Verification



Jenniter Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



- Dashboard
- Students
- Awards
- Reports
- Activity Log
- Participation Agreement
- Settings



POWERED BY **nsparc**  
A UNIT OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## Dashboard

Upload Documents

Update Student Information

Search By SSN

Aid Year

Update Type

GO!

615

2026-2027 COMPLETED MAAPP APPLICATIONS

536

2026-2027 STUDENTS WITH MISSING DOCUMENTS

0

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

GRADE VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

0

FAITH AWARD INFORMATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

3

DEPENDENCY STATUS VERIFICATION REQUESTS

2026-2027

2026-2027

2025-2026

0

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL PAID AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types

\$0.00

AWARDS BY PROGRAM : TOTAL OFFERED AMOUNTS

2026-2027

All Program Types

# Dependency Status Verification



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Institution Report

Export Report

Search

Search Reports

SSN Last Four

SSN

Date of Birth

MM/DD/YYYY

MAAPP Start Date

MM/DD/YYYY

MAAPP End Date

MM/DD/YYYY

Aid Year

2026-2027

Missing Document Type

Dependency Status Verification

Application Type

Select Application Type

Reset

Search

Aid Year	ID	Name	SSN Last Four	Student Institution ID	Date of Birth	Institution Name	MAAPP Date	Other Docs	FAFSA Status
2026-2027	11478196	<a href="#">Aboubaker, Amer</a>	1216	N/A	01/01/2006	Hinds Community College	10/03/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed
2026-2027	11477497	<a href="#">Acy, Gage</a>	0939	N/A	11/22/2007	Hinds Community College	10/01/2025	Still Needed	Still Needed
2026-2027	10766670	<a href="#">Adams, Aaliyah</a>	2346	N/A	10/05/1994	Hinds Community College	10/01/2025	Received	Not Applicable

Showing 3 of 3 Results



# Dependency Status Verification



Jennifer Rogers

Pin: 5BQHA0Yg

Financial Aid Administrator · Last Login: 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM



Dashboard

Students

Awards

Reports

Activity Log

Participation Agreement

Settings

## Student Details

Aboubaker, Amer (aaboubaker1)

(DOB: 1/1/2006)

Overview Applicant Academic FERPA Documents Awards Enrollment Grades Package Messages

Select Aid Year

2026-2027

Update Enrollment Information

Update Grade Information

Update Award Package

Update Dependency Status

### MILESTONES

MAAPP Submitted on 10/3/2025 ?

— Program(s) Applied For:

- Undergraduate Grants

FAFSA Submitted ?

Student Documents Received ?

Counselor Documents Received ?

Awards Offered ?

### MISSING DOCUMENTS

[View All](#)

Dependency Status Verification

Still Needed

[FAFSA](#) ?

Still Needed

[Parent's MS Driver's License](#) ?

Still Needed

[ACT Scores](#) ?

Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)

[Certified Core Curriculum](#) ?

Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)

[Electronic High School Grade Verification](#) ?

Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)

### RECENT MESSAGES

[View All](#)



POWERED BY nsparc

# Dependency Status Verification

The screenshot displays the MAAPP (Mississippi Aid Application) system interface. A modal window titled "Dependency Status Verification Request" is open, showing a request for documentation from the Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid. The student's information is displayed as follows:

Student Information	
Name: Amer Aboubaker	SSN Last Four: 1216
Date of Birth: 01/01/2006	

The modal window includes a "Cancel" button and two buttons for designating the dependency status: "Dependent" (orange) and "Independent" (green).

The background interface shows the user is Jennifer Rogers, Financial Aid Administrator, with a last login of 10/3/2025, 8:11 AM. The student details for Amer Aboubaker (DOB: 1/1/2006) are visible, along with a "Select Aid Year" dropdown set to 2026-2027. The interface also features a sidebar with navigation options (Dashboard, Students, Awards, Reports, Activity Log, Participation Agreement, Settings) and a main content area with "MILESTONES" and "MISSING DOCUMENTS" sections.

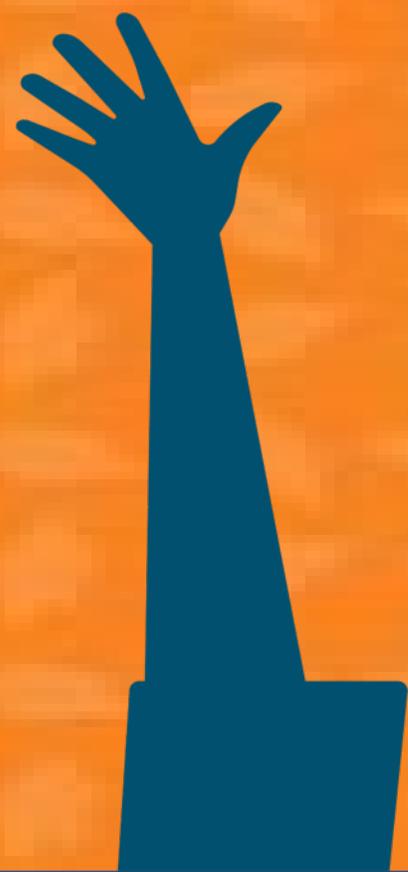
**MILESTONES**

- MAAPP Submitted on 10/3/2025 ?
  - Program(s) Applied For:
    - Undergraduate Grants
- FAFSA Submitted ?
- Student Documents Received ?
- Counselor Documents Received ?
- Awards Offered ?

**MISSING DOCUMENTS** [View All](#)

- Dependency Status Verification  
Still Needed
- FAFSA ?  
Still Needed
- Parent's MS Driver's License ?  
Still Needed
- ACT Scores ?  
Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)
- Certified Core Curriculum ?  
Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)
- Electronic High School Grade Verification ?  
Still Needed (To be Submitted by Counselor)

**RECENT MESSAGES** [View All](#)



# Policy Reminders

General Policies

Residency Documents

When to Return Funds

Returning MTAG Funds

ACT Scores and Superscores

Issues for Appeal

Balancing and Certification Statements

**K9: Kari spent 4 yrs of high school in MS but her parents moved to AL after graduation. Kari is eligible for MTAG.**

- True
- **False**

**K10: SFA will calculate cumulative GPAs to add summer grades.**

- True
- **False**

# General Policies

- Full-time, continuous enrollment
- 12 *earned* hours = full-time for state aid
- State follows federal guidelines for dependency status
- Residency for state aid is NOT the same as residency for tuition
- State accepts grades/GPA reported by school ONLY

# K11: A student doesn't want to do the FAFSA. What other residency documents can they submit instead?

- **Homestead Exemption**
- Light Bill
- **State Tax Return**
- **Vehicle Registration**

# Residency Documents (2 Required)

## Preferred

- FAFSA
- MS Driver's License

## Accepted

- State Income Tax Returns
- Homestead Exemption
- Voter Registration
- Vehicle Registration

# When to Return Funds

- If the student withdraws or drops to below full-time status before state financial aid funds are disbursed to the student
- “Disbursed”:
  - When the institution makes the funds unconditionally available to the student
  - If the institution uses its own funds to advance payment of the funds
  - In no case are funds considered to be disbursed to the student before the Office receives verification of enrollment.

# Returning MTAG Funds

- Max Pell recipients cannot receive MTAG.
- Partial Pell recipients CAN receive MTAG, BUT...
- An MTAG award cannot exceed a student's Pell award.
- IF MTAG exceeds an individual's Pell award, reduce MTAG to equal the Pell award, and return the overage.
- IF MTAG puts the student's total package over COA, reduce MTAG so the package does not exceed COA, and return the overage.

**K12: MySuperscore went down without Science. Will the state aid office recalculate it to add in my old Science score?**

- **No, because they require “official” scores.**
- Yes, but only this year.

# ACT Scores & Superscores

- Only “official” ACT scores accepted
- Sources:
  - Directly from ACT via batch file or Encoura
  - ACT Score Report
  - High School Counselor – Counselor entrusted to record from official source; counselor should not calculate Superscores
- Superscores accepted:
  - Old EMRS Superscore – tests taken before April/September 2025
  - New EMR Superscore – tests taken after April/September 2025

# K13: SFA will consider appeals for which of the following?

- **Continuous, full-time enrollment**
- **SAP**
- Deadline Dates
- Grades

# Issues for Appeal

- Continuous or full-time enrollment
  - Near-degree
    - Exceptions considered for one term only
    - No appeal will be accepted and no aid will be disbursed for any semester carrying less than 6 hours
  - Personal Event
    - Serious medical problem, illness, accident, injury, divorce, abuse, death of an immediate family member, or military service
  - Internship
    - Must be required and/or lead to earned credit
- SAP - Will follow institution
- Will NOT hear appeals related to deadline dates, residency, GPA, or ACT scores

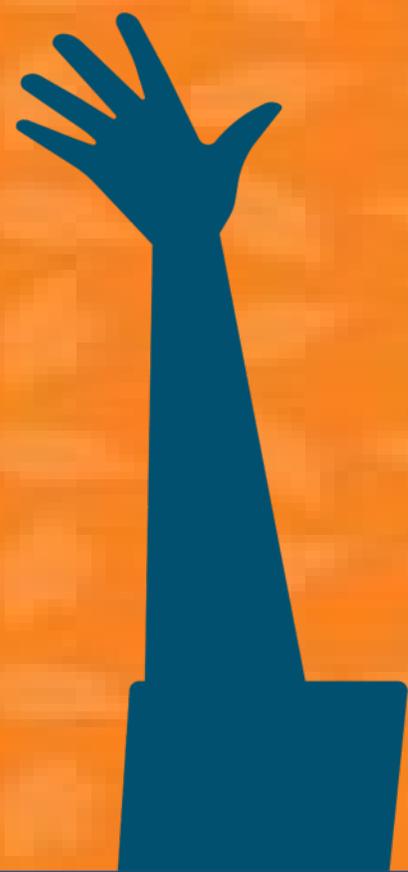
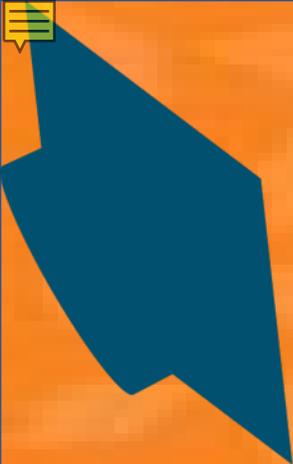
# Balancing & Certification



Refund Roster



Balancing Certification Statements WITH Refunds



# Institutional Resources

Webpage for Institutions

Policies and Procedures Manual

MAAPP

SFA Contacts

# K14: Which section of the P&P contains the General Administration rules?

- Section 601
- Section 603
- **Section 605**
- Section 607

# Institutional Resources

- Information for Institutional Financial Aid Administrators:  
<https://www.msfinancialaid.org/institutional-info/>
- Policies and Procedures Manual:  
<https://www.msfinancialaid.org/reports-policies/policies-and-procedures-manual/>
  - Part 605 – General Administration Rules and Regulations
- MAAPP: <https://maapp.msfinancialaid.org/#/account/login>
- SFA Office Contacts:
  - Beverly Jackson – [bjackson@mississippi.edu](mailto:bjackson@mississippi.edu)
  - Brandon Johnson - [bjohnson@mississippi.edu](mailto:bjohnson@mississippi.edu)

# Webpage for Institutions

From the SFA Homepage

[www.msfinancialaid.org/institutional-info/](http://www.msfinancialaid.org/institutional-info/)

Administrators, administrators, high school counselors, superintendents, headmasters, and institutional financial aid administrators can also view student accounts, make updates, and do more.

[Apply](#)  
2020-2021 Aid Year

[Dashboard](#)  
Login | Request Account

Don't Forget to [Apply](#) for Federal Aid!

Undergraduate Programs:

Graduate Programs:

Other: Loan Repayment Program:

[How to Submit Documents](#)

[Submit an Appeal](#)

[Take 15! Cont Full-time Enrollment](#)

[Forgivable Loan Repayment Info](#)

[Institutional Info](#)

[Postsecondary Board Info](#)

[Reports & Policies](#)

Search

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)

[GLOSSARY & TERMS](#)

MISSISSIPPI OFFICE  
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

[Submit and View Application](#) [Grants and Scholarships](#) [Forgivable Loans and Repayment](#) [High School Counselors](#)

## Institutional Info

**MAAPP**  
MISSISSIPPI AID APPLICATION

Institutional Deadlines

- [Institutional Deadlines](#)

Processes and File Formats

- [Semester Grade Report](#)
- [Semester Enrollment Report](#)

Submitting Grades

As stated in the General Administration Rules and Regulations:

For continuing college students, the Office accepts the overall cumulative college GPA, as calculated and certified by the registrar at the end of each term or year. The college GPA is reported directly to the Office at the end of each term by the college in a Grade Report. A student should not submit a transcript at the end of each term unless requested by the Office. The Office will not calculate GPAs, but will accept the GPA calculated by the college.

Grades should be reported by the attending institution. The attending institution is the primary institution which administers and disburses the student's state aid.

Grades can be reported to the Office in two ways:

- All institutions are required to submit a Grade Report at the end of each term.
- Institutions may submit grades for individual students via MAAPP by clicking on the logo above.

State law requires that the GPA used to determine state aid eligibility include grades from "all college work attempted".

[Forgivable Loan Repayment Info](#)

[Institutional Info](#)

[Postsecondary Board Info](#)

[Reports & Policies](#)

Search

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)

[GLOSSARY & TERMS](#)

df [FY23\\_HB1521CR\\_2....pdf](#) [FY23\\_SB3009CR\\_2.pdf](#)

# Policies & Procedures Manual

The screenshot displays the MAAPP (Mississippi Aid Application) website interface. At the top, there are two notification banners: a pink one for 'Nurse Retention Loan Repayment' and a green one for 'Winter-Reed Teacher Loan Repayment', both with close buttons. The main content area features the MAAPP logo, which includes a graduation cap over the letter 'A', and the text 'MISSISSIPPI AID APPLICATION'. Below the logo, a paragraph states: 'MAAPP is not just for students to apply. Students, student representatives, high school counselors, superintendents, headmasters, and institutional financial aid administrators can also view student accounts, make updates, and do more.' To the right of the main content is a vertical navigation menu with orange buttons for 'HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR INFO', 'GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS', 'FORGIVABLE LOAN & REPAYMENT PROGRAMS', 'SUBMIT & VIEW APPLICATIONS', 'Homeschool Info', and 'ACT Superscores'. Below these are three light blue buttons with right-pointing arrows: 'Forgivable Loan Repayment Info', 'Institutional Info', and 'Postsecondary Board Info'. The 'Reports & Policies' button is circled in red. At the bottom of the navigation menu are a search bar and two orange buttons: 'FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS' and 'GLOSSARY & TERMS'. At the bottom of the page, there is a light blue banner with the text 'Trouble Logging In?' and a close button, and a central orange button that says 'Download the State Aid Program Flier'.

Nurse Retention Loan Repayment ×

Winter-Reed Teacher Loan Repayment ×

# MAAPP

MISSISSIPPI AID APPLICATION

MAAPP is not just for students to apply. Students, student representatives, high school counselors, superintendents, headmasters, and institutional financial aid administrators can also view student accounts, make updates, and do more.

Apply 2026-2027 Aid Year

Dashboard Login | Request Account

Trouble Logging In? ×

Download the State Aid Program Flier

- HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR INFO >
- GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS >
- FORGIVABLE LOAN & REPAYMENT PROGRAMS >
- SUBMIT & VIEW APPLICATIONS >
- Homeschool Info >
- ACT Superscores >
- Forgivable Loan Repayment Info →
- Institutional Info →
- Postsecondary Board Info →
- Reports & Policies →**
- Search 🔍
- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS >
- GLOSSARY & TERMS >

# Policies & Procedures Manual



Submit and View Application



Grants and Scholarships



Forgivable Loans and Repayment



High School Counselors



Homeschool Info



ACT Superscores

## Reports & Policies

### MTAG Works: Providing Educational Opportunities for More Skilled Mississippians

The Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG) was created in 1995 to help middle-class families afford to pay for college, but the program hasn't changed to meet the needs of today's families or today's workforce. A State Aid Redesign Taskforce of education and workforce leaders was convened in 2022 to think about how MTAG might be updated to help more Mississippians access the education or skills they need to fully contribute to today's workforce. The result of that taskforce is a proposal to revise MTAG as "MTAG Works".

A digital resource and information-sharing page with optional advocacy activity for MTAG Works is now available: <https://ascentto55percent.org/mtag-works>.

[MTAG Works Advocacy One-Pager](#)

[MTAG Works Slide Presentation](#)

[December 11, 2024 Joint Legislative Hearing Slide Presentation](#)

[MTAG Works Infographic](#)

[MTAG Works ROI Analysis](#)

[MTAG Works vs. MTAG Comparison by Institution](#)

[MTAG Works Institutional Impact One-Pagers](#)

[Ascent to 55% Infographic](#)

[College Affordability in Mississippi](#)

Annual Reports

Policies and Procedures Manual

[Forgivable Loan Repayment Info](#) →

[Institutional Info](#) →

[Postsecondary Board Info](#) →

[Reports & Policies](#) →

Search 🔍

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS >

GLOSSARY & TERMS >

# Policies & Procedures Manual



## Policies and Procedures Manual

### Policies and Procedures Manual

Click below to view the Mississippi Office of Student Financial Aid Policies and Procedures Manual as a PDF.

[Policies and Procedures Manual](#)

#### Table of Contents

##### Title 10: Education Institutions and Agencies

##### Parts 600-609: Administration

- [Part 601 – Authority and Responsibilities](#)
- [Part 603 – Administrative Policies](#)
- [Part 605 – General Administration Rules and Regulations](#)

##### Parts 610-623: Undergraduate Grants

- [Part 611 – Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant \(MTAG\)](#)
- [Part 613 – Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant \(MESG\)](#)
- [Part 615 – Higher Education Legislative Plan for Needy Students \(HELP\)](#)
- [Part 617 – Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Scholarship \(LAW\)](#)
- [Part 619 – Southwest Asia Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Scholarship Program \(POW\) – Inactive/Expired](#)
- [Part 621 – Nissan Scholarship \(NISS\)](#)
- [Part 622 – Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund Summer Grant \(GEER\) – Inactive](#)

[Forgivable Loan Repayment Info](#) →

[Institutional Info](#) →

[Postsecondary Board Info](#) →

[Reports & Policies](#) →

Search

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#) >

[GLOSSARY & TERMS](#) >



# 2026 Legislative Requests

MS Workforce Promise  
Eliminate HELP Core Requirement  
Sunset Inactive Loan Programs

# K15: If you have a state aid question, who should you email first?

- Jennifer
- **Brandon**
- Beverly
- [sfa@mississippi.edu](mailto:sfa@mississippi.edu)

# Contact Information

**Brandon Johnson**

**Phone:** (601) 432-6589

**Email:** [bjohnson@mississippi.edu](mailto:bjohnson@mississippi.edu)

**Toll-free:** (800) 327-2980

**Web:** [www.msfinancialaid.org](http://www.msfinancialaid.org)

