

**Impact of Marital Status on the  
2016-2017 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)  
MN Office of Higher Education – November 2015**

**Parental Section**

<b>Dependent Student's Parental Situation:</b>	<b>Report Parental Marital Status as:</b>	<b>Provide Income and Asset Information for:</b>
Biological/Adoptive parents are married	Married or remarried	Both biological/adoptive parents, including same-sex couples legally married in a jurisdiction allowing same-sex marriages.*
Biological/Adoptive parents are divorced or separated	Divorced or separated	Biological/adoptive parent the student lived with the most in the past year. If student lived with each parent an exact equal amount of time, reverts to biological/adoptive parent who provided the most financial support to the student in the past year or the most recent year financial support was provided.
	Married or remarried	If the selected biological/adoptive parent has remarried, the student must include information for a stepparent of the opposite sex. Include information about a same-sex stepparent if the marriage took place in a jurisdiction where same-sex marriage is legal.*
Biological/Adoptive parent is widowed	Widowed	Surviving biological/adoptive parent.
	Married or remarried	If that parent has remarried, always include information for a stepparent of the opposite sex. Include information about a same-sex stepparent if the marriage took place in a jurisdiction where same-sex marriage is legal.*
Biological/Adoptive parents were never married but live together	Unmarried and both parents living together	Both biological/adoptive parents, including same-sex couples if they are both either biological or adoptive parents.
Biological/Adoptive parents were never married and do NOT live together	Never married	Biological/adoptive parent the student lived with the most in the past year. If student lived with each parent an exact equal amount of time, reverts to biological/adoptive parent who provided the most financial support to the student in the past year or the most recent year financial support was provided.
	Married or remarried	If the selected biological/adoptive parent has married, always include information for a stepparent of the opposite sex. Include information about a same-sex stepparent if the marriage took place in a jurisdiction where same-sex marriage is legal.*

**Student Section**

<b>Student applicant is:</b>	<b>Report Student's Marital Status as:</b>	<b>Provide Income and Asset Information for:</b>
Never married	Single	Student only, even if student lives with but is not married to a different-sex or same-sex partner.
Married or remarried	Married or remarried	Both student and spouse, including same-sex couples legally married in a jurisdiction where same-sex marriage is legal.*
Separated	Separated	Student only, even if student lives with but is not married to a different-sex or same-sex partner.
Divorced or widowed	Divorced or widowed	Student only, even if student lives with but is not married to a different-sex or same-sex partner.

\*Applies even if same-sex couple married in a jurisdiction allowing same-sex marriage is currently living in a jurisdiction not recognizing same-sex marriage.