

**Author Full Name :** Melinda Fedeler**Received Date :** 05/15/2025 05:47 PM**Comments Received :**

To relieve burden on FAFSA contributors and Financial Aid Offices, previous skip logic should be placed back into the FAFSA coding. For example, if a student is independent by age, they should not have to answer the other dependency questions such as orphan, ward of the court, legal guardianship, etc. Also, the DDX import from the IRS should be performed BEFORE asking contributors if they filed a tax return, then skip the question if FTI was imported. Contributors should not be allowed to enter a number in the number of household members in college that does not correlate with the number of people in household. For example, if a student is independent, not married and does not have children, they should not be able to enter more than 1 person in the household even if the number is not used in the SAI calculation. Logical, technical changes to the application and back-end processing would help both families and schools and reduce delays in financial aid offers.