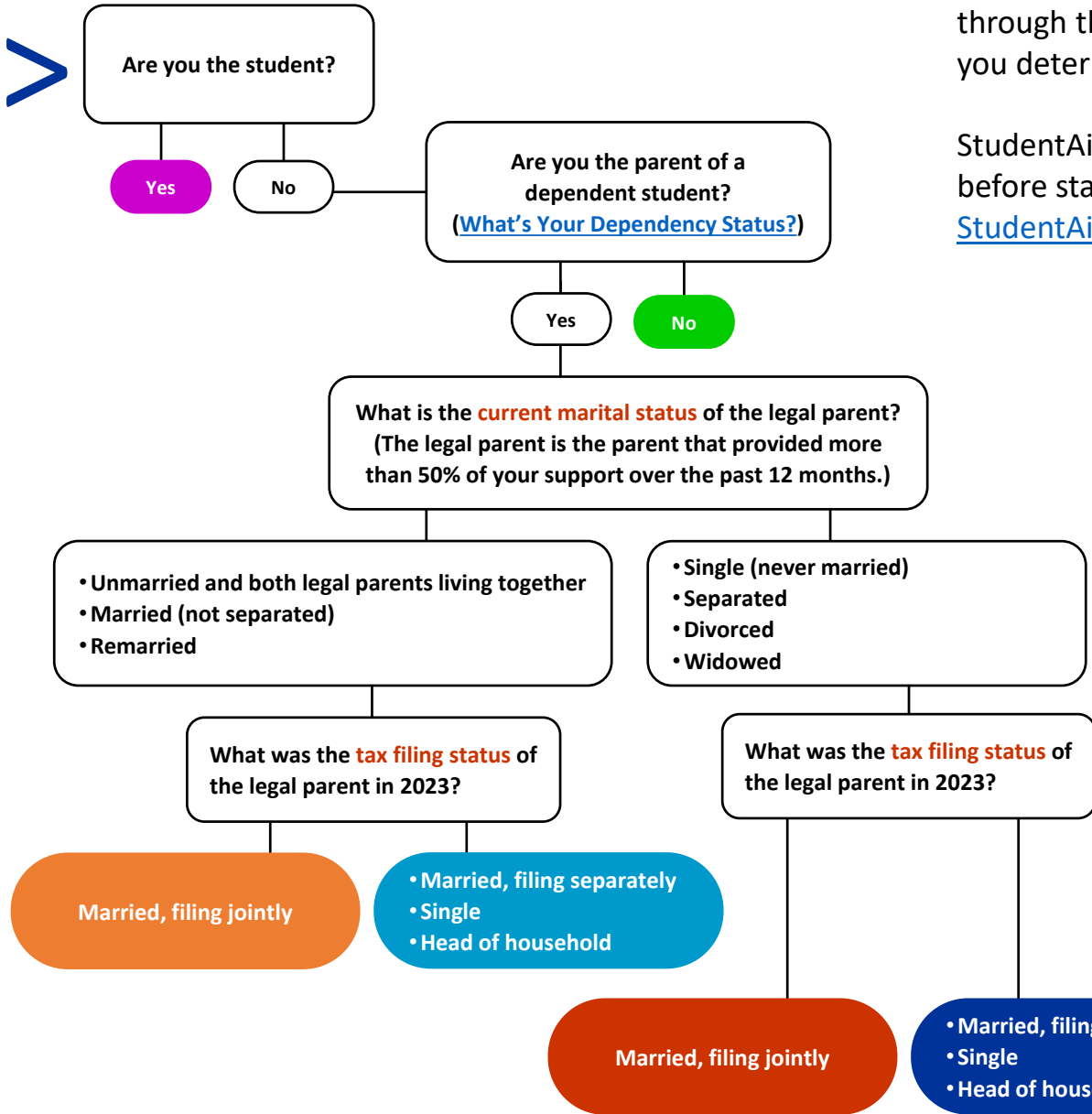


# Who needs a StudentAid.gov Account?

For Dependent Students | 2025 – 2026 FAFSA

StudentAid.gov accounts are required for students and parents to access and electronically sign the FAFSA. The FAFSA will determine who needs a StudentAid.gov account as you advance through the application, but this document is intended to help you determine who needs to create an account ahead of time.

StudentAid.gov accounts should be created at least a week before starting the FAFSA. You can create one today by visiting [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) and clicking **Create Account**.



## COLOR KEY

Every student needs a StudentAid.gov account!

Only the legal parent(s) of a dependent student (and their spouse in some cases) will need a StudentAid.gov account. Legal guardians will not be contributors to the FAFSA. If a student is determined to be independent for FAFSA purposes, no parents will need a StudentAid.gov account.

Only one parent will need a StudentAid.gov account to consent to the transfer of 2023 IRS information.

Both parents will need StudentAid.gov accounts to consent to the transfer of 2023 IRS information.

If currently separated, divorced, or widowed, but 2023 taxes were filed jointly, one parent will need a StudentAid.gov account to consent to the transfer of 2023 IRS information. The student should contact the financial aid office to request an income adjustment.

Only the legal parent will need a StudentAid.gov account to consent to the transfer of 2023 IRS information.

Use UCanGo2's StudentAid.gov Account Worksheet to keep a record of your account information. It's available in English and Spanish at [UCanGo2.org](https://ucango2.org). Click **Publications & Tools** to access the worksheet.

