# CSS Profile™

**An Overview of the 2021-22 CSS Profile**

09/01/2020

# The Process

- **Applying for financial aid**

- **What**

- **Why**

- **How**
  - **To get started**
  - **To complete the CSS Profile**

- **When**

- **Common mistakes**

# Applying for Financial Aid

**It's a process!**

- **Start by applying for admission and financial aid**

- **Complete aid applications and application supports**
    - **FAFSA**
    - **CSS Profile, if required**
    - **Institutional applications, if required**
    - **Provide documents, if required**

- **Note all critical deadlines - And do not miss them!**

- **2021-22 FAFSA and CSS Profile available October 1, 2020**

# What is the CSS Profile?

- **A financial aid application used to determine the family's financial need for institutional financial aid**

- **Used by about 400 colleges, universities, and scholarship programs**

- **A supplemental aid application to the FAFSA**
    - **FAFSA is always required for federal student aid**
    - **CSS Profile required only if your institution requires it**

- **Supports international students applying for institutional aid at some U.S. colleges**
    - **International applicants report in home currency, which is converted to U.S. dollars for institutions**

# Why do colleges require the CSS Profile?

- **To understand the family's true financial need**

- **To ensure that institutional financial aid is awarded**
  - **To the students who truly need it**
  - **In a fair and equitable manner**

- **To collect information from each of the student's parents if the parents are no longer together and have different households**

# Why should students complete the CSS Profile?

**To make certain that the student applies for all the aid that an institution might award**
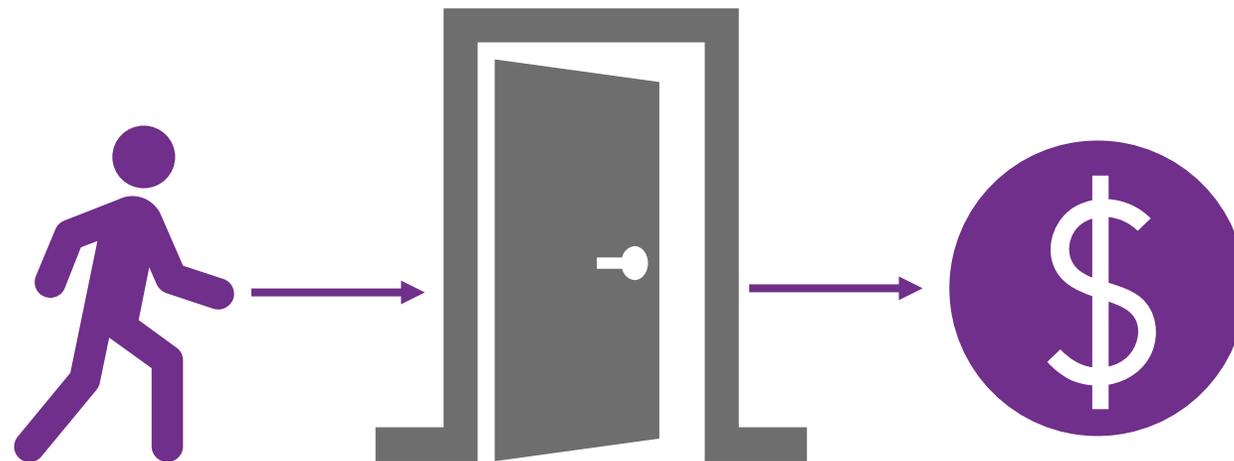
# How do you complete the CSS Profile?

- **Verify if your college requires the CSS Profile either:**
  - **On your college's website or**
  - **On the College Board's website of Participating Institutions**

- **Complete the application online at cssprofile.org**
  - **Students, and in most cases their parents, will need to provide information**

# How do you complete the CSS Profile?

- **Log in with a College Board account**
  - **Use the student's account, if student has one**
  - **If no College Board account, create one**

- **Select the proper application year!**
  - **High school seniors who will graduate in the spring of 2021 apply for financial aid for 2021-22**
  - **Same rule as for the FAFSA**
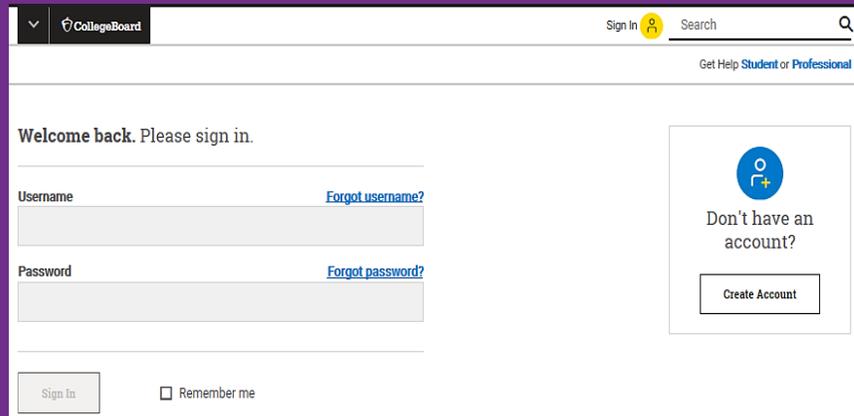
# How does the family complete the CSS Profile?

- **Noncustodial parents must create an account**
- **Custodial parents can create their own account or use student's account**

**https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/pdf/creating-css-profile-account-parent-use.pdf**

## Creating a CSS Profile Account for Parent Use

To complete a CSS Profile application, you need a College Board **student** account. If you need to complete the CSS Profile as a parent (for example, as a noncustodial parent), you still need to create and use a **student** account. You just need to create a student account using the parent's information.

**Account creation step-by-step:**

1. Go to cssprofile.org
2. Click the Sign In to button for the appropriate application award year
3. Click Create Account under Don't have an account?
4. Create your account **using your (the parent's) information, not the student's information.**

Once you have created your account and are completing the CSS Profile application, be careful to answer student sections with the student's information and parent sections with the parent's information.

CollegeBoard CSS Profile™

# Fee Waivers

**IMPORTANT!**

**If a student was eligible for an SAT fee waiver, the student's College Board account must be used for the CSS Profile for the SAT based fee waiver to be awarded**

- **Eligibility is determined automatically**
  - **If SAT fee waiver received (custodial household only)**
  - **Based on income and family size**
  - **Based on 2019 National School Lunch Program Reduced Price Income Guidelines**
    - **Example – family of 4 would qualify with income of $45,000 or less**

- **Fee waivers cover all colleges selected**

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# Cost of the CSS Profile

**Custodial Household**
- **$25 for application and first college selected**
- **$16 for each additional college**

**Noncustodial Household**
- **$25 flat fee**

$

CollegeBoard   CSS Profile™

# CSS Profile at a glance

**A comprehensive application to allow for a full understanding of the family**
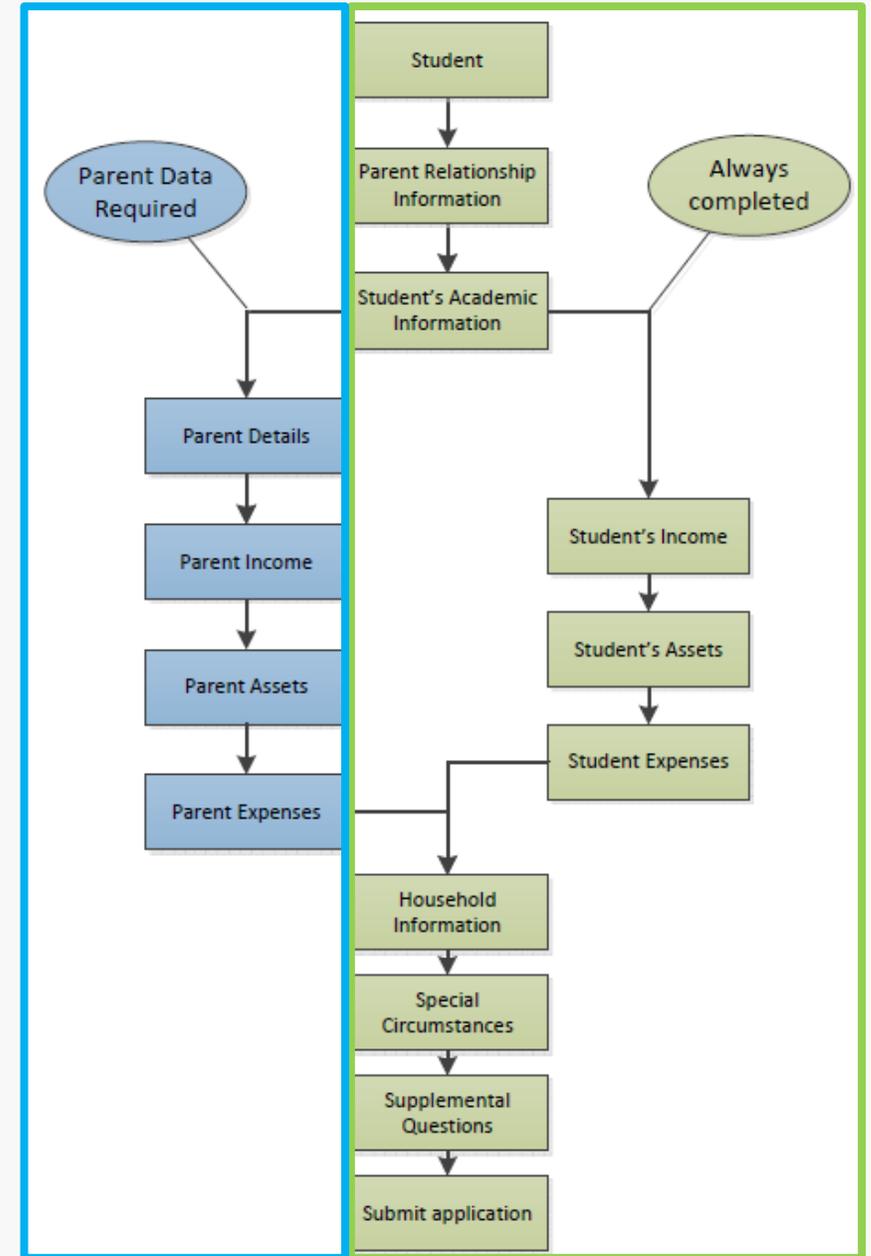
# Getting Started

## How it works

**CollegeBoard** **CSS Profile™**

August 4, 2020

Privacy Policy | Contact Us | Dashboard | Log Out

**Navigation**

**Getting Started**

▸ Getting Started

▸ Student Status

▸ Housing Information

▸ Confirm Demographics

Submit Application

### Getting Started

(*) Required fields.

**About the student**

This section asks for important information about the student.

First name*

Middle name

Last name*

Preferred name

Email address*

Phone number (##########)*

Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY)*   mm/dd/yyyy

Student's marital status*   Please Select...

Student's CBFinAid ID

**Student's Citizenship**

Country where the student lives*   Please Select...

Citizenship status*   Please Select...

Save and Continue

**First Name** - The student's first name as it appears on legal documents (i.e. birth certificate, passport).

# Getting Started

## Get it right from the beginning!

- **Student's name**
  - **Enter as listed on legal documents**
    - **Social Security Card**
    - **Alien Registration Card**

- **Date of birth**

- **Social Security Number**
  - **Must match number on FAFSA**
  - **Critical to matching file correctly at your institution**

**Getting Started**

(*) Required fields.

**About the student**

This section asks for important information about the student.

| | |
|---|---|
| First name* | Lexi |
| Middle name | |
| Last name* | Cavachon |
| Preferred name | |
| Email address* | lexic@mailinator.com |
| Phone number (##########)* | 1234567890 |
| Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY)* | 10/01/2003 |
| Student's marital status* | Never married |
| Student's CBFinAid ID | |

**Student's Citizenship**

| | |
|---|---|
| Country where the student lives* | United States |
| Citizenship status* | U.S. citizen |

**Student's Social Security Number (US) or Social Insurance Number (Canada). Please Note: Many institutions use the SSN/SIN as a primary student identifier. If this field is left blank, or an incorrect number is entered, financial aid processing may be delayed.**  ********* [Show]

# Student Status

**About the student – not the parents!**

- **These questions are critical to setting the CSS Profile correctly.**

- **Student's name is used to emphasize these questions are about the student.**

- **Common mistake is for parents to answer these questions about themselves.**



Student Status

Indicate if the following are true about Lexi.

| Lexi has legal dependents (not including the student's spouse)* | No |
| Lexi is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or currently serving on active duty* | No |
| Lexi is 18 or older, but was, until the age of 18, a ward of the court* | No |
| Lexi is 18 or older, but was, until the age of 18, in foster care* | No |
| Lexi was determined to be an emancipated minor by a court in the student's state of legal residence* | No |
| Lexi is homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless.* | No |

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# Student Status

## Student Status

Indicate if the following are true about Lexi.

Lexi has legal dependents (not including the student's spouse)* — No

Lexi is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or currently serving on active duty* — No

Lexi is 18 or older, but was, until the age of 18, a ward of the court* — No

Lexi is 18 or older, but was, until the age of 18, in foster care* — No

Lexi was determined to be an emancipated minor by a court in the student's state of legal residence* — No

Lexi is homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless.* — No

# Student Status

- **Answers must be the same as reported on the FAFSA**

- **If student is certified as homeless or at risk of being homeless, the student will be treated as an independent student**

## Homeless

(*) Required fields.

**Homeless**

At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did Lexi's high school or school district homeless liaison determine that they were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?* — Please Select... ▾

At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that Lexi was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?* — Please Select... ▾

At any time on or after July 1, 2020, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that Lexi was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?* — Please Select... ▾

Homeless - High School Verified - Answer "Yes" if the student's high school or school district homeless liaison determined the student met the definition of homeless.

CollegeBoard CSS Profile™

# Report the student's parents

- **All parents are reported**
  - **Living parents**
  - **Deceased parents**
  - **Current stepparents**
  - **Parent's current partner**
  - **Legal guardians**
  - **Legal guardian's spouse**

- **Up to four parents can be reported**

- **View Reporting Parents on the CSS Profile tutorial**

**Parental Relationships**

(*) Required fields.

**List all of Lexi's parents below.**

Include all parents - biological, adoptive, step-parents/parent's partner and legal guardians.

This information is used to help your schools understand your family situation and build your personalized application; it is critical that you be accurate and complete.

If you answer incorrectly and have to change information on this page after you have completed other sections of the application it may result in that information being considered invalid and you will have to reenter that information.

**Parent(s)**

| | Parent's first name* | Parent's last name* | Relationship to Lexi* | Deceased | Remove |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Parent 1** | Parent 1 First Name | Parent 1 Last Name | Please select... ▼ | ☐ | |
| **Parent 2** | Parent 2 First Name | Parent 2 Last Name | Please select... ▼ | ☐ | ✖ |

Add Another Parent

Click the *Save and Continue* button if the student has no other parents.

# Report the student's parents

- **Lexi reports her parents and their relationship to her**

- **Clicks Save and Continue**

## Parental Relationships

(*) Required fields.

**List all of Lexi's parents below.**

Include all parents - biological, adoptive, step-parents/parent's partner and legal guardians.

This information is used to help your schools understand your family situation and build your personalized application; it is critical that you be accurate and complete.

If you answer incorrectly and have to change information on this page after you have completed other sections of the application it may result in that information being considered invalid and you will have to reenter that information.

### Parent(s)

| | Parent's first name* | Parent's last name* | Relationship to Lexi* | Deceased | Remove |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parent 1 | Mark | Cavachon | Father | ☐ | |
| Parent 2 | Ava | Cavachon | Mother | ☐ | ✗ |

[ Add Another Parent ]

Click the *Save and Continue* button if the student has no other parents.

[ Save and Continue ]

# Report the student's parents

**Where do your parent's live?**

- **Report the country your parents are living in now**

- **Do *Not* report**
  - **Country of birth**
  - **Country of citizenship**

**Residence**

(*) Required fields.

Residence

Country where Lexi's parent(s) live* [ Please Select... ▼ ]

[ Save and Continue ]

# Selecting your colleges

**If your college lists the CSS Code Number, you should be sure to use that one!**



## College/Program Search

Search for your college/program using the CSS Code Number, the College/Program Name, or the State. Be sure that the CSS Code Number for the college(s) you select matches those provided on the college's website. Some universities have different codes for different colleges/schools.

Search By: *

Please Select...
→ CSS Code Number
→ College/Program Name
→ State

Search

Cancel     Add to CSS Profile

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# Selecting your colleges

**Make certain to select the correct college**

- **High school seniors should not select a graduate school!**
  - **Law school**
  - **Medical school**
  - **Business school**

- **Verify that the college accepts the CSS Profile from undergraduate applicants**

- **Selecting the wrong college can delay your application**

# Reporting College Details

**You are still a first-year undergraduate, never previously attended if:**

- **You were dually enrolled while in high school**

- **You earned college credits as a high school student**

## College/Program Details

(*) Required fields.

**College/Program Details**

Provide the following information for each college or program to which Eliza is applying.

**College of Sample  5024  MA**

| | |
|---|---|
| **2021-22 year in school*** | First year undergraduate, never previously attended ▼ |
| **College of Sample  Assigned ID (if known)** | |
| **Housing plans*** | Please Select... ▼ |
| **Applying to this school Regular Decision, Early Action, or Early Decision?*** | Please Select... ▼ |

**Sample University  5025  MA**

| | |
|---|---|
| **2021-22 year in school*** | First year undergraduate, never previously attended ▼ |
| **Sample University  Assigned ID (if known)** | |
| **Housing plans*** | Please Select... ▼ |
| **Applying to this school Regular Decision, Early Action, or Early Decision?*** | Please Select... ▼ |

# Reporting College Details

**Lexi's schools**

**Lexi reports her plans for each college:**
- **Year in school**
- **Student ID assigned by college (if available)**
- **Housing plans**
- **Admissions application status**

**College of Sample  5024  MA**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2021-22 year in school* | First year undergraduate, never previously attended ▼ |
| College of Sample  Assigned ID (if known) | [_____] ← |
| Housing plans* | On campus ▼ |
| Applying to this school Regular Decision, Early Action, or Early Decision?* | Early Decision ▼ ← |

**Sample University  5025  MA**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2021-22 year in school* | First year undergraduate, never previously attended ▼ |
| Sample University  Assigned ID (if known) | [_____] |
| Housing plans* | On campus ▼ |
| Applying to this school Regular Decision, Early Action, or Early Decision?* | Regular Decision ▼ ← |

# Parent information required!

**The questions are now about the parents**

Lexi's mother and father will now
see parent questions
- Income
- Assets
- Family members

# Reporting Income Information

**2019 Parent Tax Schedules and Forms**

**Check parent 2019 tax documents _carefully_ to see if schedules apply**

## Parent Tax Schedules and Forms

(*) Required fields.

### Parent Tax Schedules and Forms

Select the schedules and forms Lexi's parents' filed for 2019.

Please note, common items such as taxable refunds of state income tax and business income are reported on schedules. Especially if you use a tax preparer or tax preparation software, please check carefully to see if these schedules apply.

☐ 1040 Schedule 1 - Additional Income and Adjustments to Income

☐ 1040 Schedule 2 - Tax

☐ 1040 Schedule 3 - Nonrefundable Credits

☐ Form 2555 - Foreign Earned Income Exclusion

☐ Form 8959 - Additional Medicare Tax

# Reporting Income Information

## Follow the numbers

**Income questions are determined by the type of tax return filed.**

**Lexi's parents used their 2019 IRS 1040 to report their income.**

---

**Parent U.S. Tax Return (1040)**

Enter the following information from Lexi's parents' 2019 1040 using the tax line references.

Enter numbers only. (No commas, decimals, or dollar signs.)

| | |
|---|---|
| **Line 1: Wages, salaries, tips, etc.** * | |
| **Line 2a: Tax-exempt interest** | |
| **Line 2b: Taxable interest** | |
| **Line 3b: Ordinary dividends** | |
| **Line 4a: IRA distributions** | |
| Amount of rollover, if any | |
| **Line 4b: IRAs, taxable amount** | |
| **Line 4c: Pensions and annuities** | |
| Amount of rollover, if any | |
| **Line 4d: Pensions and annuities, taxable amount** | |
| **Line 5a: Social security benefits** | |
| **Line 5b: Social security benefits, taxable amount** | |
| **Line 6: Capital gain or (loss)** | |
| **Line 8a: Adjustments to income** | |
| **Line 8b: Adjusted gross income** * | |
| **Line 9: Standard deduction or itemized deductions** | |

# Reporting Income Information

## Follow the numbers

### 2019 1040 Tax Return

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2 | | | | 1 | 80000 |
| 2a | Tax-exempt interest | 2a | 300 | b Taxable interest. Attach Sch. B if required | 2b | |
| 3a | Qualified dividends | 3a | | b Ordinary dividends. Attach Sch. B if required | 3b | 500 |
| 4a | IRA distributions | 4a | | b Taxable amount | 4b | |
| c | Pensions and annuities | 4c | | d Taxable amount | 4d | |
| 5a | Social security benefits | 5a | | b Taxable amount | 5b | |
| 6 | Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D if required. If not required, check here ▶ ☐ | | | | 6 | |
| 7a | Other income from Schedule 1, line 9 | | | | 7a | |
| b | Add lines 1, 2b, 3b, 4b, 4d, 5b, 6, and 7a. This is your **total income** ▶ | | | | 7b | |
| 8a | Adjustments to income from Schedule 1, line 22 | | | | 8a | |
| b | Subtract line 8a from line 7b. This is your **adjusted gross income** ▶ | | | | 8b | 63180 |
| 9 | **Standard deduction or itemized deductions** (from Schedule A) | | 9 | | | |
| 10 | Qualified business income deduction. Attach Form 8995 or Form 8995-A | | 10 | 22000 | | |
| 11a | Add lines 9 and 10 | | | | 11a | |
| b | **Taxable income.** Subtract line 11a from line 8b. If zero or less, enter -0- | | | | 11b | |
| 12a | **Tax** (see inst.) Check if any from Form(s): 1 ☐ 8814  2 ☐ 4972  3 ☐ ____ | 12a | | | | |
| b | Add Schedule 2, line 3, and line 12a and enter the total ▶ | | | | 12b | |
| 13a | Child tax credit or credit for other dependents | 13a | | | | |
| b | Add Schedule 3, line 7, and line 13a and enter the total ▶ | | | | 13b | |
| 14 | Subtract line 13b from line 12b. If zero or less, enter -0- | | | | 14 | 2110 |
| 15 | Other taxes, including self-employment tax, from Schedule 2, line 10 | | | | 15 | |
| 16 | Add lines 14 and 15. This is your **total tax** ▶ | | | | 16 | |
| 17 | Federal income tax withheld from Forms W-2 and 1099 | | | | 17 | |
| 18 | Other payments and refundable credits: | | | | | |
| a | Earned income credit (EIC) | | | 18a | | |
| b | Additional child tax credit. Attach Schedule 8812 | | | 18b | 4000 | |
| c | American opportunity credit from Form 8863, line 8 | | | 18c | | |
| d | Schedule 3, line 14 | | | 18d | | |
| e | Add lines 18a through 18d. These are your **total other payments and refundable credits** ▶ | | | | 18e | |
| 19 | Add lines 17 and 18e. These are your **total payments** ▶ | | | | 19 | |

## Parent U.S. Tax Return (1040)

Enter the following information from Lexi's parents' 2019 1040 using the tax line references.

Enter numbers only. (No commas, decimals, or dollar signs.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Line 1: Wages, salaries, tips, etc. * | 80000 |
| Line 2a: Tax-exempt interest | 300 |
| Line 2b: Taxable interest | |
| Line 3b: Ordinary dividends | 500 |
| Line 4a: IRA distributions | |
| Amount of rollover, if any | |
| Line 4b: IRAs, taxable amount | |
| Line 4c: Pensions and annuities | |
| Amount of rollover, if any | |
| Line 4d: Pensions and annuities, taxable amount | |
| Line 5a: Social security benefits | |
| Line 5b: Social security benefits, taxable amount | |
| Line 6: Capital gain or (loss) | |
| Line 8a: Adjustments to income | |
| Line 8b: Adjusted gross income* | 63180 |
| Line 9: Standard deduction or itemized deductions | |
| Line 10: Qualified business income deduction | 22000 |
| Line 14: Federal taxes paid* | 2110 |
| Line 18a: Earned income credit (EIC) | |
| Line 18b: Additional child tax credit | 4000 |

# Reporting Income Information

**Information from Lexi's parents' W-2s and other documents**

- **Lexi's parents report their earnings from their W-2s**

- **They also report other income**
  - **Retirement contributions**
  - **Family's Flexible Spending Account**

- **They respond "0" to questions that do not apply**

**No cents reported**

**Whole numbers only**

**Parent Earnings**

How much did Mark earn from work in 2019?*    80000

How much did Ava earn from work in 2019?*    0

**Parent Contributions**

Enter the amount Lexi's parents contributed in 2019 to the following:

Tax deferred pension and retirement savings plans*    4000

A flexible spending account (FSA) for medical expenses*    0

A flexible spending account (FSA) for dependent care expenses*    0

A health savings account (HSA)*    0

# Reporting Income Information

**Reporting future income**

**New questions:**
- **Covid-19**
- **Expect Change**

Parent 2020 Income and Benefits

Enter the amounts Lexi's parents received or expect to receive in 2020 for the following:

Mark's income from work *

Ava's income from work *

Other taxable income*

Untaxed income and benefits*

Was Lexi's parents 2020 income significantly impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic? If you answer "Yes" please provide details in the Special Circumstances section at the end of the application.    Please Select... ▼

Expect Change

Do Lexi's parents expect a significant income change in 2021 due to a new job, a job loss, retirement, benefit changes, etc.?*    Please Select... ▼

CollegeBoard    CSS Profile™

# Reporting Income Information

## Reporting future income

**Expect Change**

Do Lexi's parents expect a significant income change in 2021 due to a new job, a job loss, retirement, benefit changes, etc.?*     Yes ▼

**Parent 2021 Income and Benefits**

Enter the amounts Lexi's parents received or expect to receive in 2021 for the following:

Mark's income from work *

Ava's income from work *

Other taxable income*

Untaxed income and benefits*

# Reporting Asset Information

**Report only assets that you have**

**Cash, savings, and checking asked of all filers**

**Other assets reported only if owned**
- **Home**
- **Investments**
- **Parental assets held in the name of younger children**
- **Other real estate**
- **Business(es)**
- **Farm(s)**

# Reporting the family members

## Who else is in Lexi's family?

**Household Introduction**

An important part of financial aid is understanding who is in your family. So far we know your family consists of:

**Lexi Cavachon**
**Mark Cavachon**
**Ava Cavachon**

On the next pages we will ask about **other** people in the student's family such as the student's siblings.

# Reporting the family members

## Who else is in Lexi's family?

### Dependent Summary

(*) Required fields.

Provide information for everyone, other than Lexi and their parents, who lives in the student's parents' household and receives more than half of their support from them.

Click the *Save and Continue button* if you have no dependent information to provide.

**Dependent(s)**

| | First Name* | Last Name* | Date of Birth* | Relationship to Student* | Remove |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dependent 1** | Jean Pierre | Cavachon | 01/27/2004 | Sibling ▼ | ✕ |

Add Another Dependent ⟵

Click the *Save and Continue* button if you have no dependent information to provide.

Save and Continue

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# Reporting the family members

## Who else is in Lexi's family?

**For each family member added, you will provide information about their school attendance**

**Dependent Details**

(*) Required fields.

---Provide the following for Jean Pierre---

| | |
|---|---|
| For the 2020-21 academic year, what is this person's year in school?* | 10th grade ▼ |
| For the 2021-22 academic year, what is this person's year in school?* | 11th grade ▼ |
| Is this person attending a private K-12 school in 2020-21?* | No ▼ |
| Will this person attend a private K-12 school in 2021-22?* | No ▼ |

Save and Continue

CollegeBoard  **CSS Profile**™

# It's Lexi's turn!

**Questions now collect Lexi's financial information**

- **Lexi will answer questions about her**
  - **Current income**
  - **Expected income and benefits**
  - **Assets**

- **Questions will be similar to those answered by Mark and Ava**

# Special Circumstances

**Important opportunity to tell your story!**

- **New Covid-19 box**

- **Don't be embarrassed**

- **Don't be afraid to tell your story**

**Special Circumstances**

(*) Required fields.

**Special Circumstances**

Select the circumstances with ongoing financial impact that apply to your family. Provide details of the financial impact, including annual amounts paid, in the box below. *

☐ Change in employment

☐ **Covid-19 pandemic**

☐ Scholarships or Sponsor information

☐ Exceptional medical or dental expenses

☐ Catastrophic Event or Natural Disaster

☐ Eldercare expenses

☐ Financial support of other family members

☐ Non-recurring income or expenses

☐ Other

☐ None

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# Lexi's Dashboard

**Up-to-date information on Lexi's application status**

- **Application status**
- **Payment receipt**
- **College list with details**
  - **Deadline dates**
  - **Link to school portal**
- **Add a college or program**
- **Next steps**

CBFinAid ID: ZAARI7S

Lexi Cavachon    Academic Year 2021-22

**Application Status**

Application
Status:
Submitted on 08/10/2020
Save a Copy

$ Payment
Payment Received: $41.00

**Colleges & Programs**

Add a College or Program

| Institution Name | CSS Code | Submission Date | Priority Filing Date? | Priority Filing Date Information | Award Letter Date? | Student Portal? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| College of Sample | 5024 | 08/10/2020 | 10/31/2020 | Click for details | | Go to portal |
| Sample University | 5025 | 08/10/2020 | | Click for details | | Go to portal |

**Next Steps**

▼ Submit Documents to the Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC)

Click here to access your Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC) dashboard.

*Please note: After you submit your CSS Profile, we start the preparation of your IDOC dashboard. During peak times it may take up to a few hours for your dashboard to be created. You will be sent an email notification when it is available.*

▶ Submit Documents to your Colleges and Programs

CollegeBoard  CSS Profile™

# When should you complete the CSS Profile?

**No later than the first deadline of your colleges!**

**Almost every college will have a different deadline and different dates for**
- **Early decision**
- **Early action**
- **Regular decision**

**Recommend treating a deadline like:**

**College's deadline date**
- **5 days**
**= Student's deadline**

# Common Mistakes

1. **Applying for the wrong academic year**
2. **Entering important information incorrectly**
   - **Not reporting the student's name as shown on legal documents**
   - **Not reporting the student's Social Security Number when one is available or entering it incorrectly**
   - **Reporting parent information as student information, and vice versa**
3. **Entering the student's date of birth incorrectly**
   - **Parent entering a sibling's date of birth**
   - **Parent entering their own date of birth**
4. **Answering questions about the student's status incorrectly**
   - **Reporting the student has dependents**
   - **Reporting the student is married or is a veteran**
   - **Reporting the student is a ward of the court**
5. **Selecting a graduate school instead of the college's undergraduate program**

# Thank you!

## References:

**CSSProfile.org**

**Getting Started with your CSS Profile Application**
- **Other tutorials**
  - **Completing the CSS Profile as the Noncustodial Parent**
  - **Reporting Parents on the CSS Profile**

**Customer Service**
- **Phone**
- **Email**
- **Chat**