



# 5 *Most Common* **FINANCIAL AID** **Mistakes to Avoid**

Attention Lone Star College Students! Don't let simple errors delay your financial aid! These common errors can prevent your application from being processed or affect your aid eligibility.

## 1. Incorrect Personal Information (SSN, DOB, Name)

- **Action:** **Double-check** your Social Security Number, date of birth, and name!
- **Why:** This information **must match exactly** what's on your Social Security card. Mistakes here can prevent processing and are difficult to fix later. If you find an error after submitting, you must log in and make a correction.

## 2. Wrong Independent vs. Dependent Status

- **Action:** Carefully review the FAFSA questions regarding your dependency status.
- **Why:** Your status depends on factors like **age, marital status, military service**, and whether you have **dependents**. Providing the wrong status can lead to missing required parent information or eligibility issues.

## 3. Forgetting to Add Your School

- **Action:** **List all colleges** you're considering attending (you can list up to 20).
- **Why:** Schools use this to determine your aid eligibility. If you leave a school out, they won't receive your information.
- **Lone Star College Federal School Code: 011145**

## 4. Leaving Blank Fields

- **Action:** Don't leave questions blank unless they truly don't apply to you.
- **Why:** Blank fields can cause errors and delay processing. **If a question doesn't apply, use a "0" or "N/A" where appropriate.**

## 5. Forgetting to Sign the FAFSA

- **Action:** Both the **student and contributor** (if dependent) **must sign** the FAFSA using their **FSA IDs**.
- **Why:** Without signatures, your FAFSA is incomplete and **won't be processed**. After review, ensure you click **"Sign and Submit."**