How can I request a change to my financial aid package?

What's an appeal?

If you are a student receiving financial aid to attend school, you can submit an appeal or a request to your school to adjust your financial aid package. A financial aid appeal or request is available to qualifying students at all types of institutions (4-year, 2-year and trade) offering federal, state and institutional financial aid.

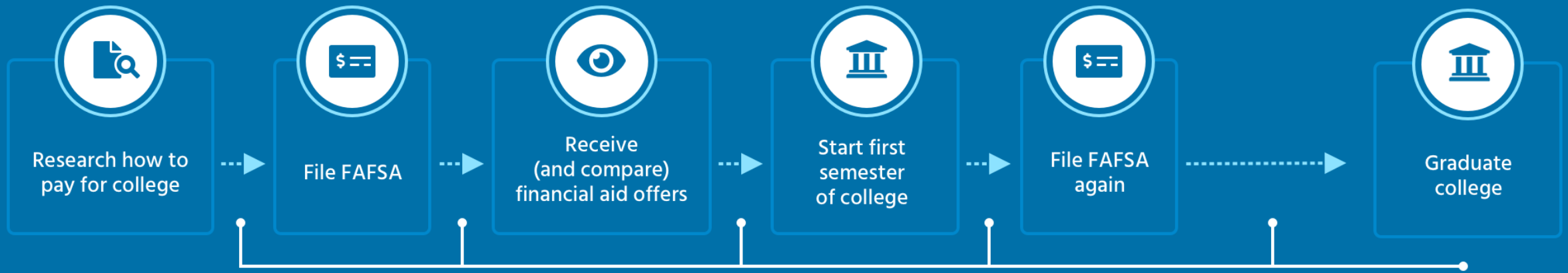
Laws regulating financial aid allow your financial aid office to make changes to your financial aid package under certain circumstances. Each school has its own processes and requirements. If your financial aid office accepts an appeal or a petition, your financial aid package may change in one of the following ways:

- **Your cost of attendance (COA) may go up**
- **Your expected family contribution (EFC) may go down**

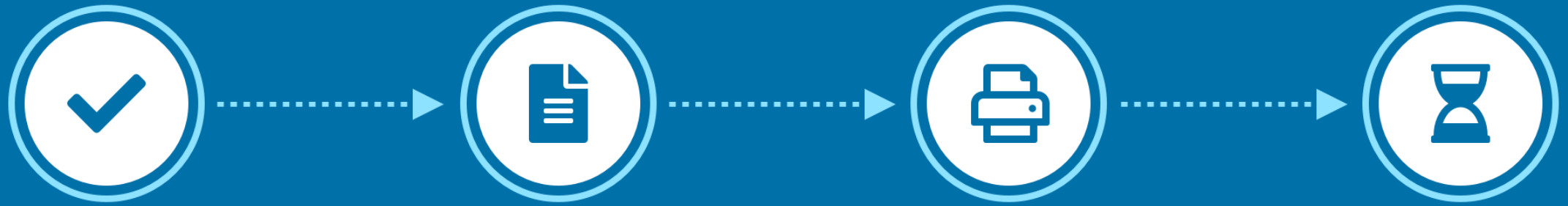
The goal is to qualify and receive additional financial aid, if eligible and available.

However, it is also possible that neither of these changes will occur, but that the financial aid office may remind you of grant aid or federal loans that are available under your original financial aid package.

What's an appeal?



SwiftStudent will help you write a financial aid appeal letter – **for free**.



Learn about eligibility

Use a free template to write an appeal letter

Print and take to your financial aid office

Wait for your school to accept or reject your request

Visit our free site at **https://formswift.com/swift-student**

How to start my appeal

Eligibility, supporting documents, and letter templates vary by appeal type.

Check out the free guidance and templates at:
https://formswift.com/swift-student

All templates are designed for students currently receiving or applying for financial aid. Even if your appeal is not accepted, your school's financial aid officers may be able to direct you to other resources once they better understand your situation.



Types of appeals available via SwiftStudent



Ask the financial aid office to exclude parental information when they calculate my financial aid – *remember there must be special circumstances*



Ask for financial aid to cover my childcare costs



Ask for financial aid to cover expenses associated with my disability



Ask for more financial aid if my financial situation changes after I fill out the FAFSA – *for example if your family income changed since last year*



Ask for financial aid to cover my dependent care costs



Ask for my financial aid to be reinstated if I miss Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements



Ask for more financial aid if FAFSA does not capture a financial difficulty I am currently facing



Ask for financial aid to help with a car repair



Ask for additional help if I have a financial emergency



Ask for financial aid to cover a computer or other supplies that I need for school



Ask for financial aid to help with food or housing –*if housing and food are not already included in your cost of attendance*



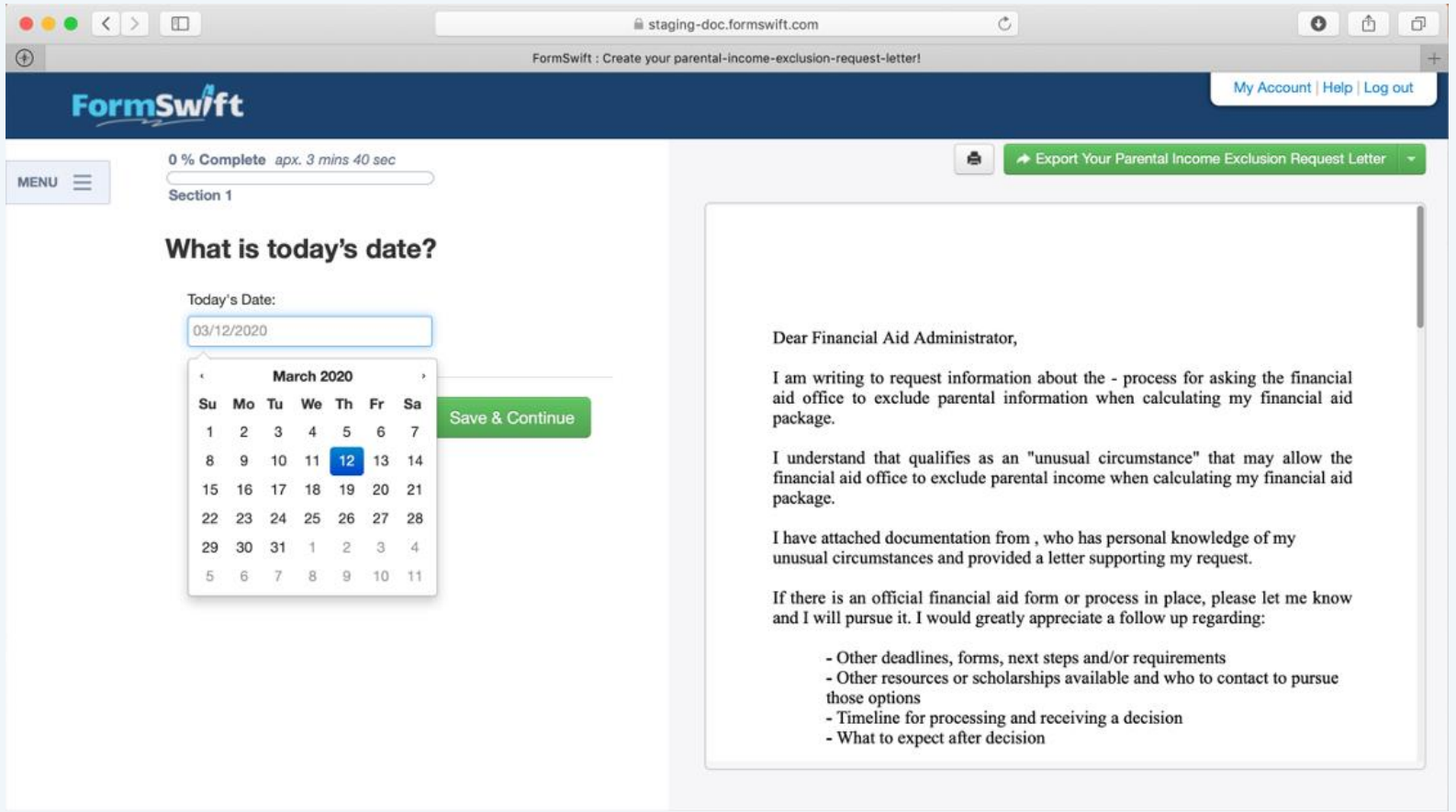
Ask for an extension if I miss a financial aid deadline

Templates for individuals writing in support of a student's appeal request



- Write a letter of support for a student seeking a dependency override
- Write a letter explaining the cost of the childcare I provide for a student parent

SwiftStudent offers free, customizable template letters to help you share your situation with the financial aid office



Visit our free site at **https://formswift.com/swift-student**

SwiftStudent addresses the barriers students face – and **saves time** for financial aid officers.

SwiftStudent offers students:

- a way to start the appeal conversation with college financial aid officers
- clear information about financial aid requirements and appeal types
- customizable template letters to help you share your situation with your school

SwiftStudent offers financial aid officers:

- a free resource to enhance the existing appeals process
- a path to receiving clear aid requests aligned with federal requirements
- customizable template letters for students that will enable easier evaluation

Visit our free site at **https://formswift.com/swift-student**

About SwiftStudent

SwiftStudent is the only free, digital resource that provides financial aid appeal letter templates for students.

The content for SwiftStudent was organized by the Seldin/Haring-Smith Foundation in partnership with leading higher education organizations.

SwiftStudent is powered by the company FormSwift, a leading provider of tools to help you easily create, edit, and sign any document.

NASFAA
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

higher learning ADVOCATES

Generation Hope

Achieving the Dream

Student Defense
National Student Legal Defense Network

New America

u·aspire

Institute for Women's Policy Research
Informing policy. Inspiring change. Improving lives.

Reach Higher
Complete your education. Own your future.

Everett Community College

The hope Center
For College, Community, and Justice
HOPE4COLLEGE.COM

Montgomery College

National College Attainment Network

Young Invincibles

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