**Answering Questions on the FAFSA Relating to Your Parent(s) Marital Status**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) requires students who are considered dependent to provide information about their parents. The instructions on the FAFSA state that you must provide information for your parents even if you do not live with them.

**Your legal parents are considered your biological, adoptive, or state-designated parents. A person would also be considered your legal parent if they were determined to be so by the state (for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate).**

- If your legal parents are married to each other, select "Married or remarried", and answer the questions on the FAFSA for both of them. Same-sex couples must report their marital status as married if they were legally married in a state or other jurisdiction (foreign country) that permits same-sex marriage.

- If your legal parents are separated but living together, select "Married or remarried" and answer the questions on the FAFSA for both of them.

- If your legal parents were never married to each other or divorced and live together, select "Unmarried and both parents living together" and answer the questions on the FAFSA for both of them regardless of their gender. Do not include any person who is not married to your parent and who is not a legal parent.

- If your legal parents are divorced or separated and NOT living together, select "Divorced or separated" and answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, or with either parent, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support to you during the past 12 months or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent. If this parent is remarried as of the day you complete your FAFSA, select "Married or remarried" and answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

- If your legal parents are divorced but living together, select "Unmarried and both parents living together" and answer the questions on the FAFSA for both of them.

- If your parent was never married and does not live with your other legal parent, provide information for only one parent. Answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, or with either parent, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support to you during the past 12 months or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent.

- If your widowed parent is remarried as of the day you complete your FAFSA, select “Married or remarried” and answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

**Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, aunts and uncles are not considered parents for your FAFSA unless they have legally adopted you. If you have any questions about who counts as a parent, please contact Oserve.**