

**APPENDIX A**  
**2002–2003 REJECT CODES AND REJECT REASONS**

***Reject Reason Codes***

Reject reason codes can be either alpha or numeric. Alpha codes indicate reject reasons that are verifiable—that is, the student can verify the questionable data by re-entering the same value, or can correct it to a different value. Numeric codes are not verifiable; the questioned data must be changed or provided. In all reject situations, the questioned information is highlighted on the SAR and an EFC is not calculated.

A “verify” action on the SAR will override a CPS edit. For example, if a student reports an exceptionally large number of family members, e.g., 20, the student's application will get Reject W. The student can verify the information by correcting the item to the same value and Reject W will not be triggered again.

However, if instead of verifying that 20 in the family is correct, the student changes 20 to 21, the corrected data will be subject to the same edits and will hit Reject W again.

In EDEExpress, an FAA can override some verifiable rejects before transmitting the student's data to the CPS if the FAA knows that the reported information is correct. In FAFSA on the Web, the student can also override the reject by verifying the information they have entered.

Reject codes and reasons, and their associated SAR comment codes, are listed here. If a student is rejected for more than one reason, the reject codes will appear in the FAA Information Box in priority order. The resolution for a rejected SAR is always the responsibility of the student, not the institution, and the SAR comment generated by the reject explains what action the student must take.

## Reject Codes and Reasons

Reject Code	Reject Reason	Action	Comment Code
A	Date of birth year equals 1900 through 1917	Verify or correct the Date of Birth	069
B	Independent student and date of birth equals 09/01/86 or later, and date of birth is not equal to or later than current year	Verify or correct the Date of Birth	072
C	Taxes paid equal Adjusted Gross Income	Verify or correct Taxes paid	111, 114
N	Missing first or last name	Verify or correct the student's last name or first name	080
P	Invalid SSN range	Verify or correct the student's current SSN	023
W	Questionable number of family members, greater than 15	If the student is dependent, verify or correct Parents' Number of Family Members.  If the student is independent, verify or correct Student's Number of Family Members.	178, 179
1	Simplified needs test is not met and all asset data are blank	If the student is dependent, provide the following: Parents' Cash, Savings, and Checking; Parents' Real Estate/Investment Net Worth and Parents' Business/Investment Farm Net Worth If the student is independent, provide the following: Student's Cash, Savings and Checking; Student's Real Estate/Investment Net Worth and Student's Business/Investment Farm Net Worth	150, 151
2	Incomplete Application or Renewal Application	If the student is dependent, provide Parents' Taxed and Untaxed Income.  If the student is independent, provide Student and Spouse (if married) Taxed and Untaxed Income.	129, 130

## Reject Codes and Reasons (Continued)

Reject Code	Reject Reason	Action	Comment Code
5	Missing or invalid Date of Birth	Correct the Date of Birth	018
8	SSN match with Date of Death	Contact the Social Security Administration. The Social Security Number (SSN) on this transaction belongs to a deceased person, according to the Social Security Administration.	145
10	Missing marital status and household size	<p>If the student is dependent, review and correct Parents' Marital Status and Parents' Number of Family Members.</p> <p>If the student is independent, review and correct Student's Marital Status and Student's Number of Family Members.</p>	168, 169
11	Marital Status inconsistent with reported incomes	<p>If the student is dependent, review and correct Parents' Marital Status plus Father's/Stepfather's Income From Work and Mother's/Stepmother's Income From Work.</p> <p>If the student is independent, review and correct Student's Marital Status plus Student's Income Earned From Work and Spouse's Income Earned From Work.</p>	089, 099
13	Missing Name	Provide the following: Student's Last Name and/or Student's First Name; Or verify a blank first or last name field if the student actually has only one name.	082

## Reject Codes and Reasons (Continued)

Reject Code	Reject Reason	Action	Comment Code
14	Missing student signature on paper application or SAR	Signature correction must be made on a printed Student Aid Report certification page and resubmitted to the FAFSA Processor or may be corrected electronically.	160
15	Missing parent signature on application or SAR	Signature correction must be made on a printed Student Aid Report certification page and resubmitted to the FAFSA Processor or may be corrected electronically.	108
16	Missing student signature on FAFSA on the Web or Renewal on the Web Application	Signature correction must be made on a printed Student Aid Report certification page and resubmitted to the FAFSA Processor or may be corrected electronically.	110
17	Unknown citizenship status or student is not an U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen	Review or correct Citizenship Status	068
18	SSN not on Social Security Administration's database	Correct the Social Security Number, or contact the Social Security Administration for further assistance	024, 062
19	An EFC cannot be calculated because the Department of Education has placed a 'hold' on the student.	Comment 009, student needs to call 202/377-3243 and ask for Debarment and Suspension Specialist	009