



2020–2021 INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION WORKSHEET

Your 2020–2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) was selected for review in a process called verification. The law says that before awarding Federal Student Aid, we may ask you to confirm the information you reported on your FAFSA. To verify that you provided correct information the financial aid administrator at your school will compare your FAFSA with the information on this worksheet and with any other required documents. If there are differences, your FAFSA information may need to be corrected. You must complete and sign this worksheet, attach any required documents, and submit the form and other required documents to the financial aid administrator at your school. Your school may ask for additional information. If you have questions about verification, contact your financial aid administrator as soon as possible so that your financial aid will not be delayed.

A. Independent Student’s Information

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|--|
| Student’s Last Name | Student’s First Name | Student’s M.I. | Student’s School ID Number |
| Student’s Street Address (include apt. no.) | | | Student’s Date of Birth |
| City | State | Zip Code | Student’s Email Address |
| Student’s Home Phone Number (include area code) | | | Student’s Alternate or Cell Phone Number |

B. Independent Student’s Family Information

List below the people in your household. Include:

- Yourself.
- Your spouse, if you are married.
- Your children, if any, if you will provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, or if the child would be required to provide your information if they were completing a FAFSA for 2020–2021. Include children who meet either of these standards, even if they do not live with you.
- Other people if they now live with you and you provide more than half of their support and will continue to provide more than half of their support through June 30, 2021.
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Include the name of the college for any household member who will be enrolled at least half time, in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at a postsecondary educational institution any time between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021. *If more space is needed, attach a separate page with your name and Social Security Number at the top.*

| Full Name | Age | Relationship | College | Will be Enrolled at Least Half Time |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Marty Jones(example)</i> | 28 | <i>Wife</i> | <i>Central University</i> | <i>Yes/No</i> |
| | | <i>Self</i> | | |
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Note: We may require additional documentation if we have reason to believe that the information regarding the household members enrolled in eligible postsecondary educational institutions is inaccurate.

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C. Independent Student's Income Information to Be Verified

1. **TAX RETURN FILERS—Important Note:** The instructions below apply to the student and spouse, if the student is married. Notify the financial aid office if the student or spouse filed separate IRS income tax returns for 2018 or had a change in marital status after December 31, 2018.

Instructions: Complete this section if the student (or spouse if married) filed or will file a 2018 IRS income tax return. The best way to verify income is by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) that is part of FAFSA on the Web at FAFSA.gov. In most cases, no further documentation is needed to verify 2018 income information that was transferred into the student's FAFSA using the IRS DRT if that information was not changed by the FAFSA filer. *If you need more information about when, or how to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool see your financial aid administrator.*

Check the box that applies:

- The student has used the IRS Data Retrieval Tool in FAFSA on the Web to transfer 2018 IRS income information into the FAFSA. *Your school will use the IRS information that was transferred in the verification process.*
- The student has not yet used the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, but will use the tool to transfer 2018 IRS income information into the FAFSA once 2018 IRS tax return have been filed.
- The student is unable or chooses not to use the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web*, and instead will provide the school with a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s)**.

A **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript** may be obtained through:

- **Get Transcript by MAIL** – Go to www.irs.gov, under the Tools heading, click "Get a tax transcript." Click "Get Transcript by MAIL." Make sure to request the "IRS Tax Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "IRS Tax Account Transcript." The transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the online request.
- **Get Transcript ONLINE** – Go to www.irs.gov, under the Tools heading, click "Get a tax transcript." Click "Get Transcript ONLINE." Make sure to request the "IRS Tax Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "IRS Tax Account Transcript." To use the Get Transcript Online tool, the user must have (1) access to a valid email address, (2) a text-enabled mobile phone (pay-as-you-go plans cannot be used) in the user's name, and (3) specific financial account numbers (such as a credit card number or an account number for a home mortgage or auto loan). The transcript displays online upon successful completion of the IRS's two-step authentication.
- **Automated Telephone Request** – 1-800-908-9946. Transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the telephone request.
- **Paper Request Form** – IRS Form 4506T-EZ or IRS Form 4506-T. The transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the paper request form.

If the student and spouse filed separate 2018 IRS income tax returns, the IRS DRT cannot be used and the **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s)** must be provided for each.

____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s)** is provided.

____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s)** will be provided later.

2. **INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH UNUSUAL IRS CIRCUMSTANCES**—complete this section if the student has filed, or will file a 2018 income tax return with any of the following circumstances.

Check the box that applies:

- The student is required to file a 2018 IRS income tax return and has been granted a filing extension by the IRS, must provide.

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- A copy of IRS Form 4868, “Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return,” that was filed with the IRS for tax year 2018;
- A copy of the IRS’s approval of an extension beyond the automatic six-month extension if the individual requested an additional extension of the filing time for tax year 2018;
- Verification of Non-Filing Letter (confirmation that the tax return has not yet been filed) from the IRS or other relevant tax authority dated on or after October 1, 2018;
- A copy of IRS Form W–2 for each source of employment income received for tax year 2018 *and*,
- If self-employed, a signed statement certifying the amount of the individual’s Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and the U.S. income tax paid for tax year 2018.

The student has filed an amended IRS income tax return for tax year 2018, must provide:

- A 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript (that will only include information from the original tax return and does not have to be signed), or any other IRS tax transcript(s) that includes all of the income and tax information required to be verified; *and*
- A signed copy of the 2018 IRS Form 1040X, “Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return,” that was filed with the IRS.

The student was the victim of IRS tax-related identity theft, must provide:

- A Tax Return Database View (TRDBV) transcript obtained from the IRS, or any other IRS tax transcript(s) that includes all of the income and tax information required to be verified; *and*
- A statement signed and dated by the tax filer indicating that he or she was a victim of IRS tax-related identity theft and that the IRS is aware of the tax-related identity theft.

3. **TAX RETURN NONFILERS**—Complete this section if the student (and spouse if married), **will not file and are not required** to file a 2018 income tax return with the IRS.

Check the box that applies:

The student (and spouse if married) was not employed and had no income earned from work in 2018.

The student (and/or spouse if married) was employed in 2018 and has listed below the names of all employers, the amount earned from each employer in 2018, and whether an IRS W-2 form is provided. Copies of all 2018 W-2 forms issued to you (and spouse if married) by employers must be provided. *List every employer even if the employer did not issue an IRS W-2 form. If more space is needed, attach a separate page with your name and SSN at the top.*

| Employer’s Name | 2018 Amount Earned | IRS W-2 Provided? |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Suzy’s Auto Body Shop (example)</i> | <i>\$2,000.00</i> | <i>Yes</i> |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Provide documentation from the IRS or other relevant tax authority dated on or after October 1, 2018 that indicates a 2018 IRS income tax return was not filed with the IRS or other relevant tax authority.

___ Check here if confirmation of non-filing is provided.

___ Check here if confirmation of non-filing will be provided later



D. High School Completion Status

Provide one of the following documents that indicate your high school completion status when the student begins college in 2019–2020:

- A copy of the student’s high school diploma showing when graduated.
- For students who completed secondary education in a foreign country, a copy of the “secondary school leaving certificate” or other similar document.
- A copy of the student’s final official high school transcript that shows the date when the diploma was awarded.
- A state certificate or transcript received by a student after the student passed a State-authorized examination that the State recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma (GED test, HiSET, TASC, or other State-authorized examination).
- An academic transcript that indicates the student successfully completed at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor’s degree.
- For a student who was homeschooled in a state where state law requires the student to obtain a secondary school completion credential for homeschooling (other than a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent), a copy of that credential.
- For a student who was homeschooled in a state where state law does not require the student to obtain a secondary school completion credential for homeschooling (other than a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent), a transcript, or the equivalent, signed by the student's parent or guardian, that lists the secondary school courses the student completed and includes a statement that the student successfully completed a secondary school education in a homeschool setting.

Check the box that applies:

- The student has submitted a final official transcript or equivalent to the Admissions Office. *The financial aid administrator will use this information for the verification process.*
- The student has not yet submitted a final official transcript or equivalent. *The student’s admissions file or the verification process cannot be completed until a final official transcript or equivalent has been received.*

A student who is unable to obtain the documentation listed above must contact the financial aid office. If we have already received one of the documents above as part of the admission process, you do not need to turn in another copy.

E. Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

To be signed at the Institution:

The student must appear in person at _____ to verify his or her identity

(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution)

by presenting an unexpired valid government-issued photo identification (ID), such as, but not limited to, a driver’s license, other state-issued ID, or passport. The institution will maintain a copy of the student’s photo ID that is annotated by the institution with the date it was received and reviewed, and the name of the official at the institution authorized to receive and review the student’s ID.

In addition, the student must sign, in the presence of the institutional official, the Statement of Educational Purpose provided below.

To be signed in the presence of a Notary:

If the student is **unable** to appear in person at the Institution to verify his or her identity, the student must provide to the Institution:

- A** A copy of the unexpired valid government-issued photo identification (ID) that is acknowledged in the notary statement below, or that is presented to a notary, such as, but not limited to, a driver’s license, other state-issued ID, or passport; and

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B The original Statement of Educational Purpose provided below, which must be notarized. If the notary statement appears on a separate page than the Statement of Educational Purpose, there must be a clear indication that the Statement of Educational Purpose was the document notarized.

Statement of Educational Purpose

I certify that I _____ am the individual signing this Statement of Educational Purpose
(Print Student's Name)

and that the federal student financial assistance I may receive will only be used for educational purposes and to pay the cost of attending _____ for 2019-2020.
(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution)

Student's Signature Date Student's ID Number

Authorized Institutional Official's Signature Date

Notary's Certificate of Acknowledgement

State of _____ City/County of _____

On _____ before me, _____, personally appeared,
(Date) (Notary's Printed Name)

_____, and provided to me on basis of satisfactory evidence of identification
(Printed Name of Signer)

_____ to be the above-named person who signed the foregoing instrument.
(Type of government-issued photo ID provided)

WITNESS my hand and official seal:

_____ My commission expires on _____
(Notary signature) (Seal) (Date)

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F. Certification and Signature

I certify that all of the information reported on this worksheet is complete and correct. The student must sign this worksheet. If married, the spouse's signature is optional.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.

Student's Signature

Date

Spouse's Signature (if applicable)

Date

***Do not mail this worksheet to the U.S. Department of Education.
Submit this worksheet to the financial aid administrator at your school.***

You should make a copy of this worksheet for your records.