

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Verification of 2018 Income Information for Student Tax 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 and spouse filed or will file a 2018 IRS income tax return(s). *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.

Check the box that applies:

- The student has used the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web* to transfer 2018 IRS income tax return information into the student's FAFSA.
- The student has not yet used the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web*, but will use the tool to transfer 2018 IRS income tax return information into the student's FAFSA.
- The student is unable or chooses not to use the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web*, and instead will provide the institution with a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules.**

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

- Get Transcript by Mail – Go to www.irs.gov, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript by Mail." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "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, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript Online." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "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) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** must be provided for each.

_____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** is provided.

_____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** will be provided later.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Verification of 2018 Income Information for Parent Tax Filers

Important Note: The instructions below apply to each parent included in the household. Notify the financial aid office if the parents 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 parents filed or will file a 2018 IRS income tax return(s). *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.

Check the box that applies:

- The parents have used the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web* to transfer 2018 IRS income tax return information into the student's FAFSA.
- The parents have not yet used the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web*, but will use the tool to transfer 2018 IRS income tax return information into the student's FAFSA.
- The parents are unable or choose not to use the IRS DRT in *FAFSA on the Web*, and instead will provide the institution with a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules.**

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

- Get Transcript by Mail – Go to www.irs.gov, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript by Mail." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "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, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript Online." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "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 parents filed separate 2018 IRS income tax returns, the IRS DRT cannot be used and the **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** must be provided for each.

_____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** is provided.

_____ Check here if a **2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules** will be provided later.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Verification of 2018 Income Information for Individuals with Unusual Circumstances

Individuals Granted a Filing Extension by the IRS

An individual who is required to file a 2018 IRS income tax return and has been granted a filing extension by the IRS beyond the automatic six-month extension for tax year 2018, must provide:

- A copy of the IRS's approval of an extension beyond the automatic six-month extension for tax year 2018;
- Verification of Non-filing (VNF) Letter (confirmation that the tax return has not yet been filed) from the IRS dated on or after October 1, 2019 or a signed statement certifying that the individual attempted to obtain the VNF from the IRS and was unable to obtain the required documentation;
- A copy of IRS Form W–2 for each source of employment income received or an equivalent document 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.

Note: An individual granted a filing extension beyond the automatic six-month extension may be required to submit tax information using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, by obtaining a transcript from the IRS, or by submitting a copy of the income tax return and the applicable schedules that were filed with the IRS that lists 2018 tax account information.

Individuals Who Filed an Amended IRS Income Tax Return

An individual who filed an amended IRS income tax return for tax year 2018 must provide a signed copy of the 2018 IRS Form 1040X, "Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return," that was filed with the IRS or documentation from the IRS that include the change(s) made by the IRS, in addition to one of the following:

- IRS DRT information on an ISIR record with all tax information from the original tax return;
- 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; or
- A signed copy of the 2018 IRS Form 1040 and the applicable schedules that were filed with the IRS.

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Individuals Who Were Victims of IRS Tax-Related Identity Theft

An individual who was the victim of IRS tax-related identity theft must provide:

- A Tax Return DataBase View (TRDBV) transcript obtained from the IRS, or if unable to obtain a TRDBV, an equivalent document provided by the IRS or a copy of the signed 2018 income tax return and applicable schedules the individual filed with the IRS; **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.

Individuals Who Filed Non-IRS Income Tax Returns

- A tax filer who filed an income tax return with a tax authority other than the IRS may provide a signed copy of his or her income tax return that was filed with the relevant tax authority. However, if we question the accuracy of the information on the signed copy of the income tax return, the tax filer must provide us with a copy of the tax account information issued by the relevant tax authority before verification can be completed.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Verification of 2018 Income Information for Student Non-tax Filers

The instructions and certifications below apply to the student and spouse, if the student is married. Complete this section if the student and spouse 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 were not employed and had no income earned from work in 2018.
- The student and/or spouse were employed in 2018 and have listed below the names of all employers, the amount earned from each employer in 2018, and whether an IRS W-2 form or an equivalent document is provided. [Provide copies of all 2018 IRS W-2 forms issued to the student and spouse by their employers]. List every employer even if the employer did not issue an IRS W-2 form.

If more space is needed, provide a separate page with the student's name and ID number at the top.

Employer's Name	IRS W-2 or an Equivalent Document Provided?	Annual Amount Earned in 2018
<i>(Example) ABC's Auto Body Shop</i>	Yes	\$4,500.00
Total Amount of Income Earned From Work		\$

Provide documentation from the IRS or other relevant tax authority dated on or after October 1, 2019 that indicates a 2018 IRS income tax return was not filed with the IRS or other relevant tax authority, or a signed statement certifying that the individual attempted to obtain confirmation of non-filing from the IRS or other relevant tax authority and was unable to obtain the required documentation.

_____ Check here if confirmation of non-filing or a signed statement is provided.

_____ Check here if confirmation of non-filing or a signed statement will be provided later.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Verification of 2018 Income Information for Parent Non-tax Filers

The instructions and certifications below apply to each parent included in the household. Complete this section if the parents will not file and are not required to file a 2018 income tax return with the IRS.

Check the box that applies:

- Neither parent was employed, and neither had income earned from work in 2018.
- One or both parents were employed in 2018 and have listed below the names of all employers, the amount earned from each employer in 2018, and whether an IRS W-2 form or an equivalent document is provided. [Provide copies of all 2018 IRS W-2 forms issued to the parents by their employers]. List every employer even if the employer did not issue an IRS W-2 form.

If more space is needed, provide a separate page with the student's name and ID number at the top.

Employer's Name	IRS W-2 or an Equivalent Document Provided?	Annual Amount Earned in 2018
<i>(Example) ABC's Auto Body Shop</i>	Yes	\$4,500.00
Total Amount of Income Earned From Work		\$

Provide documentation from the IRS or other relevant tax authority dated on or after October 1, 2019 that indicates a 2018 IRS income tax return was not filed with the IRS or other relevant tax authority, or a signed statement certifying that the individual attempted to obtain confirmation of non-filing from the IRS or other relevant tax authority and was unable to obtain the required documentation.

- _____ Check here if confirmation of non-filing or a signed statement is provided.
- _____ Check here if confirmation of non-filing or a signed statement will be provided later.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Number of Household Members and Number in College (Independent Student)

Number of Household Members: List below the people in the student's household. Include:

- The student.
- The student's spouse, if the student is married.
- The student's or spouse's children if the student or spouse will provide more than half of the children's support from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, even if a child does not live with the student.
- Other people if they now live with the student and the student or spouse provides more than half of the other person's support and will continue to provide more than half of that person's support through June 30, 2021.

Number in College: Include in the space below information about any household member who is, or will be, enrolled at least half time in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at an eligible postsecondary educational institution any time between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, and include the name of the college.

If more space is needed, provide a separate page with the student's name and ID number at the top.

Full Name	Age	Relationship	College	Will be Enrolled at Least Half Time (Yes or No)
		<i>Self</i>		

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.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Number of Household Members and Number in College (Dependent Student)

Number of Household Members: List below the people in the parents' household. Include:

- The student.
- The parents (including a stepparent) even if the student doesn't live with the parents.
- The parents' other children if the parents will provide more than half of the children's support from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, or if the other children would be required to provide parental information if they were completing a FAFSA for 2020–2021. Include children who meet either of these standards, even if a child does not live with the parents.
- Other people if they now live with the parents and the parents provide more than half of the other person's support and will continue to provide more than half of that person's support through June 30, 2021.

Number in College: Include in the space below information about any household member, excluding the parents, who is, or will be, enrolled at least half time in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at an eligible postsecondary educational institution any time between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, and include the name of the college.

If more space is needed, provide a separate page with the student's name and ID number at the top.

Full Name	Age	Relationship	College	Will be Enrolled at Least Half Time (Yes or No)
		<i>Self</i>		

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.

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

High School Completion Status

Provide one of the following documents to indicate the student's high school completion status when the student begins college in 2020–2021:

- A copy of the student's high school diploma.
- For students who completed secondary education in a foreign country, a copy of the "secondary school leaving certificate" or another 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.

A student who is unable to obtain the documentation listed above must contact the financial aid office.

2020–2021 Required Verification Text

Note: Institutions must use the exact language in the Statement of Educational Purpose as provided below

**Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose
(To Be Signed at the Institution)**

The student must appear in person at _____ to
(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution)

verify his or her identity 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.

**Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose
(To Be Signed in the Presence of a Notary)**

If the student is unable to appear in person at _____
(Name of Postsecondary Educational 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
- (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
(Print Student's Name)

this Statement of Educational Purpose 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 2020–2021.

(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution)

(Student's Signature)

(Date)

(Student's ID Number)

Texto de verificación requerida para 2020–2021

Nota: Las instituciones deben utilizar el lenguaje exacto en la Declaración de Propósito Educativo que se presenta a continuación

Verificación de Identidad y Declaración de Propósito Educativo (Para ser firmadas en la institución)

El estudiante debe comparecer en persona en _____ para
(Nombre de la institución educativa postsecundaria)

verificar su identidad mediante la presentación de una identificación con fotografía (ID) válida emitida por el gobierno que no haya expirado, como una licencia de conducir, otro tipo de identificación emitida por el estado o pasaporte, entre otros. La institución conservará una copia de la identificación con fotografía del estudiante en la cual se anotará la fecha en la que se recibió y revisó, y el nombre del funcionario de la institución autorizado a recibir y revisar las identificaciones de los estudiantes.

Además, el estudiante debe firmar, en presencia del funcionario de la institución, la Declaración de Propósito Educativo proporcionada a continuación.

Verificación de Identidad y Declaración de Propósito Educativo (Para ser firmadas en presencia de un notario)

Si el estudiante no es capaz de comparecer en persona en _____
(Nombre de la institución educativa postsecundaria)
para verificar su identidad, el mismo debe proporcionar a la institución:

- (a) una copia de la de identificación con fotografía (ID) válida emitida por el gobierno que no haya expirado, que se reconoce en la declaración del notario que aparece a continuación, o que se presenta ante un notario, como una licencia de conducir, otro tipo de identificación emitida por el estado o pasaporte, entre otros; y
- (b) la Declaración de Propósito Educativo original proporcionada a continuación debe ser notarizada. Si la declaración del notario aparece en una página separada de la Declaración de Propósito Educativo, se debe indicar de manera clara que la Declaración de Propósito Educativo era el documento notarizado.

Declaración de Propósito Educativo

Certifico que yo, _____, soy el individuo que firma esta
[Imprimir nombre del estudiante]

Declaración de Propósito Educativo, y que la ayuda financiera federal estudiantil que yo pueda recibir sólo será utilizada para fines educativos y para pagar el costo de asistir a _____ para 2020–2021.
[Imprimir nombre de institución educativa postsecundaria]

[Firma del estudiante]

[Fecha]

[Número de identificación del estudiante]

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Sample of a Notary’s Certificate of Acknowledgement

Notary’s certification may vary by State

State of _____

City/County of _____

On _____, before me, _____,
(Date) (Notary’s name)

personally appeared, _____, and proved to me
(Printed name of signer)

on the basis of satisfactory evidence of identification _____
(Type of unexpired government-issued photo
ID provided)

to be the above-named person who signed the foregoing instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal

(seal)

(Notary signature)

My commission expires on _____
(Date)

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Certification and Signature (Independent Student)

Certification and Signature

Each person signing below certifies that all of the information reported is complete and correct.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.

Print Student's Name

Student's ID Number

Student's Signature (Required)

Date

Spouse's Signature (Optional)

Date

2020–2021 Suggested Verification Text

Certifications and Signatures (Dependent Student)

Certifications and Signatures

Each person signing below certifies that all of the information reported is complete and correct. The student and one parent whose information was reported on the FAFSA must sign and date.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.

Print Student's Name

Student's ID Number

Student's Signature (Required)

Date

Parent's Signature (Required)

Date