FAFSA Verification

What is verification?
Verification is the process used to confirm that the information you entered on your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application is accurate. If selected for verification, you must successfully complete the verification process by submitting the required documents before you are eligible to receive federal aid.

How to know if you have been selected for verification:
One way to know if you have been selected for verification is to review your Student Aid Report (SAR) after your FAFSA application has been processed. On the first page of your Student Aid Report (SAR), you will find your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). If your Expected Family Contribution has an asterisk (*) next to it, that indicates that you have been selected for verification. Additionally, it is common for students to be contacted by the college directly to verify information.

Student Aid Report (SAR) & Expected Family Contribution (EFC):
The Student Aid Report offers a summary of all the information entered on the FAFSA, comments about your eligibility for Federal Student Aid, and your EFC. The EFC stands for Expected Family Contribution. It is an indicator of a family’s ability to pay towards the student’s education. It is also used by financial offices to determine a student’s eligibility for federal, state, and some institutional financial aid during one school year.

How to find my Student Aid Report (SAR):
1. Go to www.fafsa.gov
2. Log in with your FSA ID
3. Select View or Print your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the “My FAFSA” page

What can be verified?
- Adjusted gross income (AGI)
- U.S income tax paid
- Education tax credits
- IRA deductions and payments
- Tax-exempt interest income
- Income earned from work
- Untaxed IRA distributions pensions
- Household size
- Number in college
- High School completion status
- Identity/statement of educational purpose
- Tax-exempt interest income
- Income earned from work

What documents do I need for verification?
Most of the information needed for the verification process can be found on a copy of your tax return or tax transcript. You can request a copy of your tax transcript online or by mail at https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript, or by calling 1-800-908-9946. Individuals needing to provide verification of non-filing will need to complete and submit Form 4506-T available at https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-4506-t.

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