

Verification Process

The federally mandated verification process uses documentation to confirm that the information provided on the FAFSA is correct. Verification ensures that eligible students receive all the federal financial aid to which they are entitled. Below are answers to commonly asked questions about the verification process.

How will I know if I am selected for verification?

If you are selected for verification by the federal processor, there will be an asterisk next to your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) on your Student Aid Report (SAR). You will also be informed of having been selected for verification in the SAR Acknowledgement letter.

If you are selected for verification by the EGSC Office of Financial Aid, you will be notified of any additional documentation that is required. If you have a Federal Pell Grant estimated in your financial aid award, you will be selected for verification.

Why was I selected for verification?

Reasons vary; it may be that your FAFSA was incomplete or contains estimated or inconsistent information. You may have also been chosen randomly. Verification is a federal regulation. Students selected for verification are not being punished; rather verification prevents ineligible students from receiving aid by reporting false information and ensures that eligible students receive all the aid for which they qualify.

How will I know what additional documentation is required for verification, and where and when to send it?

If your SAR indicates you were selected for verification or if the EGSC Office of Financial Aid determines that your application needs to be verified, you and your parent(s) will be required to provide supporting documents to the EGSC Office of Financial Aid.

The Department of Education has changed the verification process. As a result, depending on certain financial indicators, the category of verification you were selected for and the specific documentation required will vary. You will receive a letter from the EGSC Office of Financial Aid outlining your requirements. Below is a breakdown of each verification category.

Verification Tracking Groups

Students who are selected for verification will be placed in one of the five groups: (The group determines which FAFSA information must be verified for the student.)

Standard Verification Group

V1

Students in this group must verify the following if they are tax filers:

- Adjusted gross income
- U.S. income tax paid
- Untaxed portions of IRA distributions
- Untaxed portions of pensions
- IRA deductions and payments
- Tax-exempt interest income
- Education credits
- Household size
- Number in college
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits
- Child support paid

Students who are not tax filers must verify the following:

- Income earned from work
- Household size
- Number in college
- SNAP benefits
- Child support paid

Child Support Paid Verification Group

V3

Students must verify child support paid by them or their spouse, their parents, or both.

Custom Verification Group

V4

Students must verify high school completion status and identity/statement of educational purpose in addition to receipt of SNAP benefits and payment of child support.

Aggregate Verification Group

V5

Students must verify high school completion status and identity/statement of educational purpose in addition to the items in the Standard Verification Group.

Household Resources Group

V6

Students must verify the items in the Standard Verification Group as well as certain other untaxed income on the 2014–2015 FAFSA:

- Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans
(Questions 45a and 94a)
- Child support received (Questions 45c and 94c)
- Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy, and others (Questions 45g and 94g)
- Veterans' noneducation benefits (Questions 45h and 94h)
- Other untaxed income (Questions 45i and 94i)
- Money received or paid on the applicant's behalf (Question 45j)
- Resources or benefits not appearing on the FAFSA, such as in-kind support from a relative or a government agency.