



FACT SHEET: FAFSA REJECTION AND VERIFICATION

FAFSA Rejection

After filing, a student can check the status of his or her FAFSA at fafsa.gov. A student without access to the internet can check the status of the FAFSA by calling 1-800-4-FEDAID (1-800-433-3243).

Once the FAFSA is processed, a link to the electronic SAR is sent to the student if he or she supplied a valid email address on the FAFSA. The SAR instructs the student to make any necessary corrections to a rejected FAFSA.

Common reasons for rejection include:

- Using an incorrect social security number
- Not using the student name as it appears on their Social Security Card
- Failure to sign the FAFSA (student and/or parent/guardian)

Resolving the Rejection Status

1. Have the student login to www.FAFSA.gov.
2. Access the [Student Aid Report](#). **Note:** Any student with an FSA ID can view or print his/her SAR by clicking **Login** on the *FAFSA on the Web* home page to log in, then selecting **View or Print your Student Aid Report (SAR)** from the "My FAFSA" page.
3. The student might need to take action. If the application is complete, an *Expected Family Contribution (EFC)* will display in the upper right-hand corner of the SAR. If the application is incomplete, the SAR will not include an EFC, but it will tell the student what needs to be done to resolve any issues. About half way down the page there is a WHAT YOU MUST DO NEXT message for students. More information about the SAR can be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/student-aid-report#how-and-when>.

Students can contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center for answers to additional questions:

1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)

Visit <https://studentaidhelp.ed.gov/> for more information.



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FAFSA Verification

A student selected for verification will be asked to show that certain information on his or her FAFSA is correct. Different students are asked to verify different items.

If a student is selected for verification, the college(s) will contact him or her to indicate what documentation the student must submit to the school and by what date. Students can also be proactive and call the financial aid office at the college(s) to see what documentation needs to be provided. The student needs to provide all documentation promptly. Colleges will not process financial aid for the student until the required documentation is received.

Possible Items Required To Be Verified

- Tax Data
- Household Size
- Number in College
- High School Completion
- Identity
- Statement of Educational Purpose

Tax Data

Note: Using IRS Data Retrieval Tool eliminates the need for additional documentation.

Documentation Needed:

- IRS Tax Return Tax Transcript or a **signed** copy of the Tax Return. A signed copy of the tax return might be accepted in some situations. Contact the financial aid office for more details.
- www.irs.gov
- **4506-T:** <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506t.pdf>

Household Size & Number in College

Documentation Needed:

- Form Sent to student by financial aid office
- Electronic Form in Student Portal

High School Completion

Documentation Needed:

- Copy of diploma
- HS transcript if graduation date is included
- Other documentation may be accepted

Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

Appear in Person:

- Provide identification
- Sign statement

Unable to Appear in Person:

- Appear before a notary
- Copy of identification
- Mail signed and notarized statement