

2013-2014 Verification

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U.S. Department of Education
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Federal Student Aid
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Agenda

2013-2014

- New verification items and documentation
- Verification text vs. verification worksheets
- Verification tracking groups and flags
- Verification selection
- Verification resources

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Information on Verification

- **Program Integrity Final Rules**
- Published on October 29, 2010
- Replaces the five verification items for all selected applicants with a targeted selection from items included in an annual **Federal Register** notice published by the Secretary
- Institution may select additional applicants or verify additional items for an applicant

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Verification for 2013-2014

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Verification for 2013-2014

Verification items—

- Includes the same verification items that were in place for 2012-2013 for tax filers and non-tax filers
- Added two new items—
 - High school completion status
 - Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose

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Verification for 2013-2014

- Verification selection process
 - The CPS will continue to set a Verification Flag on the applicant's ISIR to indicate that the FAFSA was selected for verification
- New for 2013-2014: Verification Tracking Groups
 - The CPS is adding a process that will place each applicant selected for verification into one of five Verification Tracking Groups
 - The applicant's ISIR will use the Verification Tracking Flag field to indicate the applicant's Verification Tracking Group:
 - V1, V2, V3, V4, or V5

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Verification Tracking Flag -- V1 for Non-Filers

Group V1– Standard Verification, Non-filers

- Selected based on standard verification criteria
- Like 12/13, standard verification items:
 - Income Earned from Work
 - Number of Household Members
 - Number in College
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Food Stamps)
 - Child Support Paid

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Verification Tracking Flag – V2

Group V2 – SNAP Verification Group

- **Not** selected based on standard verification criteria, but
- Student/Parent indicated that someone in the household was receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Food Stamps)
- This was the **only** thing that made them hit an Auto-Zero EFC

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Verification Tracking Flag – V3

Group V3 – Child-Support Paid Group

- **Not** selected based on standard verification criteria, but
- Students who were selected because the student (or spouse), the student’s parent, or both reported Child Support Paid

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Verification Tracking Flag – V4

- Group V4 – Custom Verification Group
- **Not** selected based on standard verification criteria, but
- Applicants selected using the identity verification criteria will verify the following data:
 - High School Completion Status
 - Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Food Stamps)
 - Child Support Paid

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Verification Tracking Flag – V5

- Group V5 – Aggregate Verification Group
- Selected based on standard verification criteria, and
- Selected using the identity verification criteria
 - High School Completion Status
 - Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose
- For Tax Filers
 - Same as Group V1
- For Tax Non-tax Filers
 - Same as Group V1

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Documentation of high school completion status: high school diploma—

- High school diploma; or
- Final high school transcript that shows the date the high school diploma was awarded

Note: If a copy of an applicant's high school diploma or final high school transcript is unavailable, the institution may accept alternative documentation.

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Documentation of high school completion status: recognized equivalent of a high school diploma—

- For a person who is seeking enrollment in an educational program that leads
 - At least an associate degree or its equivalent and
 - Has not completed high school but has excelled academically in high school
 - Documentation from the high school that the student excelled academically in high school and documentation from the postsecondary institution that the student has met the formalized, written policies of the postsecondary institution for admitting such students

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Documentation of high school completion status: recognized equivalent of a high school diploma—

- General Educational Development (GED) Certificate;
- State certificate received by a student after the student has passed a State-authorized examination that the State recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma;
- Academic transcript of a student who has successfully completed at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree; or

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Documentation of high school completion status: homeschooled—

- Transcript or the equivalent, signed by the parent or guardian, that lists the secondary school courses completed by the applicant and documents the successful completion of a secondary school education; or
- A secondary school completion credential for home school (other than a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent) provided for under State law

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Documentation of identity/statement of educational purpose—

- Appear in person and present to an institutionally authorized individual--
- A valid government-issued photo identification (driver's license, non-driver's license, or passport); and
- A signed statement of educational purpose

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Documentation of identity/statement of educational purpose (cont.)—

- Must maintain, an annotated copy of the identification submitted by the applicant that includes—
- The date documentation was received; and
- The name of the institutionally-authorized individual that obtained the documentation

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Documentation of identity/statement of educational purpose (cont.)—

- If **unable to appear** in person, must provide the institution—
- A copy of a valid government-issued photo identification (driver's license, non-driver's license, or passport); and
- An original notarized statement of educational purpose signed by the applicant

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Verification Resources

- 6/18/10 NPRM (Pages 34825 – 34834)
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/registers/FR061810ProgramIntegrityIssuesNPRM.html>
- 10/29/10 Final Rule (Pages 66902 – 66913 and 66954 – 66958)
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/registers/FR102910Final.html>
- Federal Register Notice of Information To Be Verified for the 2012–2013 Award Year
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/registers/FR071311FAFSAInformation.html>

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Verification Resources

- GEN-11-13 and GEN-11-03
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpletters/GEN1113.html>
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpletters/GEN1103.html>
- Q&A on Program Integrity website:
 - <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2009/verification.html>
- Sample 2012-2013 Verification Worksheets
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/020312SampleVerificationWorksheets1213.html>

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Verification Resources

- FAFSA-IRS Tax Return Transcript Matrix
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/031612FAFSA1213VerificationIRSTaxReturnMatrix.html>
- 2012-2013 Application and Verification Guide
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/sohandbook/attachments/1213AVG.pdf>
- GEN-12-07—Acceptable Documentation for Income and Taxes
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpletters/attachments/GEN1207.pdf>

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Verification Resources

- 2012-2013 Electronic Data Exchange (EDE) Technical Reference
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/edetechref/010612EDETechRef1213Jan12Update.html>
- 2012-2013 ISIR Guide
 - <http://ifap.ed.gov/isirguide/attachments/1213ISIRGuideDec2011.pdf>
- Electronic Announcement on Acceptable Documentation Update for 2012-2013 Award Year Verification
 - <http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/110212AwardYrVerAcceptDocs.html>

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Verification Resources

- Electronic Announcement on Acceptable Documentation for Verification of 2011 IRS Information
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/072012AcceptableDocumentation4Verification2011IRSInfo.html>
- Electronic Announcement on Limited Circumstances When a Signed Copy of a Tax Return or Other Documentation is Acceptable for Completing Verification
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/082112LimitedCircumstancesWhenSignedCopyofTaxReturnsAcceptable.html>

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2013-2014 Verification Resources

- Federal Register notice published 7/12/2012
- Dear Colleague Letter GEN-12-11
 - <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpccletters/GEN1211.html>
- Electronic Announcement on Plans for 2013-2014 Verification Worksheets
 - <http://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/110112Plansfor1314VerificationWorksheets.html>

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2013-2014 Verification Resources

- Electronic Announcement 1/18/13 – 2013-14 Verification-Suggested Text
- Appendix A – Suggested text institutions may use to collect 13/14 information from students
- Appendix B – Table of 13/14 Verification Items
- Appendix C – 13/14 Table of Verification Tracking Groups (V1-V5)
- Appendix D – **Example** of 13/14 verification document
 - For Example Purposes only!

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2013-2014 Verification Resources

- Electronic Announcement 3/1/13 – 2013-14 Verification-Suggested Text
- Provides Updated Guidance on Acceptable Documentation in relation to the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)
- Great table (attachment) for timeframes of when a tax return is filed to when the data is available using the IRS DRT or Tax Return Transcript may be requested

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2013-2014 Verification Resources

- Electronic Announcement 3/5/13 – Program Integrity Q&A Website Update
- Updated Q&A site with statement that guidance applies to 2012/13 and 2013/14
- Changed wording from "effective for" to "beginning with"
- Updated guidance on documentation
- Updated reference pages for 2013/14 ISIR guide
- Updated Acceptable Documentation for FAFSA Information Selected for Verification

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Questions



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Presentation Evaluation

I would appreciate if you would take the time to submit an evaluation of this presentation. A paper evaluation is attached or you can use this link. Thanks much!

<https://s.zoomerang.com/s/DavidBartlett>



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