

2015-2016 Federal Verification Process

Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has been selected for the Federal Verification Process. This process is required by federal regulations to be completed by the Financial Aid Office to ensure that the information reported on your FAFSA is accurate. In order for us to complete this process, we will need for you to either complete the **IRS Data Retrieval** on your FAFSA OR request an **IRS Tax Return Transcript** (*instructions on page 2*). Please review the information below regarding how to complete the IRS Data Retrieval OR to request an IRS Tax Return Transcript.

IRS Data Retrieval Process

This process will allow you to automatically have your family's income information transferred to your FAFSA. The process enables FAFSA to request and retrieve income and tax data directly from the IRS.

All 2015-2016 FAFSA On The Web (FOTW) applicants, and the parents of dependent applicants, who indicate that they have filed their federal tax returns prior to completing their FAFSA, may use the FAFSA-IRS Data Retrieval process to complete their FAFSA.

How the IRS Data Retrieval works:

If you and your parents have filed federal tax returns before starting the FAFSA, you will be able to transfer your income information while completing the FAFSA. If you have not filed federal tax returns before starting the FAFSA, you may transfer the IRS Data Retrieval information after filing federal tax returns by using the FAFSA corrections process.

Electronically filed tax return information will be available online from the IRS site 1-2 weeks after the return has been filed; data from paper tax returns will be available in 6-8 weeks.

Families must actively choose to utilize the IRS Data Retrieval. When you choose to do so, you will be transferred to the Internal Revenue Service web site. You will need to authenticate your identity before any personal information is displayed.

Some Families Will Not Be Able to Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool:

- Parents of a dependent student filing separate tax returns;
- An applicant's parent with a change in marital status after the end of the tax year on December 31, 2013;
- Anyone who has filed an amended tax return;
- Applicant or applicant's parents who have filed a foreign tax return.

Families Unable to Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool:

If you are unable to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool you must request an IRS Transcript to verify your income. Please see the instructions on Page 2 of this document.

IRS Tax Return Transcript Request Process

Tax filers can request from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) an IRS Tax Return Transcript of their 2014 IRS tax return information, free of charge, in one of six ways. An IRS Record of Account can only be requested using Get Transcript ONLINE or by submitting an IRS Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return.

Under all methods, when requesting a transcript, tax filers need to provide their Social Security Number (SSN), date of birth, their street address, and ZIP Code as is currently on file with the IRS. Generally, this is the address included on the latest tax return filed with the IRS. However, if an address change was made either with the IRS or with the U.S. Postal Service, the IRS may have the updated address on file. If this is the case use the updated address.

Joint Tax Return - When requesting a transcript using one of the four electronic processes described below, use the primary tax filer's information (e.g., SSN). When requesting a transcript using one of the two paper processes described below, either spouse may submit the request and only one signature is required.

Online Request - Get Transcript ONLINE

- Available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.
- Under the Tools heading on the IRS homepage click "Get Transcript of Your Tax Records"
- Click "Get Transcript ONLINE."
- Acknowledge the disclosure pop up box that appears by clicking "OK."
- The tax filer must sign up to create or reactivate his or her account.
- Follow the prompts to request a transcript.

Online Request - Get Transcript by MAIL

- Available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.
- Under the Tools heading on the IRS homepage click "Get Transcript of Your Tax Records"
- Click "Get Transcript by MAIL."
- Acknowledge the disclosure pop up box that appears by clicking "OK."
- Complete the required fields (SSN, DOB etc.) then click "Continue."
- In the **Type of Transcript** field, select "Return Transcript" and, in the **Tax Year** field, select "2014."
- Click "Continue."
- If successfully validated, tax filers can expect to receive a paper IRS Tax Return Transcript at the address included in their online request, within 5 to 10 business days from the time the online request was successfully transmitted to the IRS.
- IRS Tax Return Transcripts requested online cannot be mailed to an address other than the address on file with the IRS.

IRS2Go App

- Apple Online Store at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/irs2go/id414113282?mt=8>
- Google Play at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.irs>

Telephone Request

- Available from the IRS by calling 1-800-908-9946.
- To continue in English press 1.
- Tax filers must follow prompts to enter their Social Security number and the numbers in their street address
- Select “**Option 2**” to request an IRS Tax Return Transcript and then enter “**2014.**”
- If successfully validated, tax filers can expect to receive a paper IRS Tax Return Transcript at the address included in their telephone request within 5 to 10 business days from the time the IRS receives the request.
- IRS Tax Return Transcripts requested by telephone cannot be mailed to an address other than the address on file with the IRS.

Paper Request Form – IRS Form 4506T-EZ, Short Form Request for Individual Tax Return Transcript

- Download a PDF for the 4506T-EZ at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506tez.pdf>
- Complete lines 1 – 4, following the instructions on page 2 of the form.
- Line 5 provides tax filers with the option to have their IRS Tax Return Transcript mailed directly to a third party by the IRS. Institutions are responsible for notifying aid applicants whether to list the institution as the third party to receive the IRS Tax Return Transcript from the IRS. Third parties should provide specific address information including a room #, ATTN lines, names, etc. so that the transcript is delivered to the appropriate person/office. The IRS will send the transcript only to the address listed on Line 5. The IRS will not mail a copy of the transcript to the tax filer, nor will the tax filer receive notification that the transcript was sent to the designated third party.
- On line 6, enter “2014” to receive tax information for the 2014 tax year that is required for 2015-2016 FAFSA® verification.
- The tax filer must sign and date the form and enter their telephone number. Sign the IRS Form 4506T-EZ exactly as your name appeared on the original tax return. If you changed your name prior to submitting your tax return, also sign your current name.
- Mail or fax the completed IRS Form 4506T-EZ to the appropriate address (or FAX number) provided on page 2 of IRS Form 4506T-EZ.
- Tax filers can expect to receive their IRS Tax Return Transcript within 10 business days from the time the IRS receives and processes their signed request. However, if a third party is identified on line 5, the third party can expect to receive the tax filer’s IRS Tax Return Transcript within 10 business days from the time the IRS receives and processes the signed request.
- NOTE: If any information does not match IRS records, the IRS will notify the tax filer that it was not able to provide the transcript.

Paper Request Form – IRS Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return

- Download a PDF for the 4506-T at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506t.pdf>.
- Complete lines 1 – 4, following the instructions on page 2 of the form.
- Line 5 provides tax filers with the option to have their IRS Tax Return Transcript or IRS Record of Account mailed directly to a third party by the IRS. Institutions are responsible for notifying aid applicants whether to list the institution as the third party to receive the IRS Tax Return Transcript or IRS Record of Account from the IRS. Third parties should provide specific address information including a room #, ATTN lines, names, etc. so that the transcript is delivered to the appropriate person/office. The IRS will send the transcript only to the address listed on Line 5. The IRS will not mail a copy of the transcript to the tax filer, nor will the tax filer receive notification that the transcript was sent to the designated third party.
- On line 6, enter the tax form number that is being requested (1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, etc.) and then check the appropriate box for the transcript being requested. Only one tax form number can be used per request.
- On line 9, enter “12/31/2014” to receive IRS tax information for the 2014 tax year that is required for 2015-2016 FAFSA® verification.
- The tax filer must sign and date the form and enter their telephone number. Sign the IRS Form 4506-T exactly as your name appeared on the original tax return. If you changed your name after submitting your tax return, also sign your current name.
- Mail or fax the completed IRS Form 4506-T to the appropriate address (or FAX number) provided on page 2 of IRS Form 4506-T.
- Tax filers can expect to receive their IRS Tax Return Transcript or IRS Record of Account within 10 business days from the time the IRS receives and processes the completed and signed 4506-T request. However, if a third party is identified on line 5, the third party can expect to receive the tax filer’s IRS Tax Return Transcript within 10 business days from the time the IRS receives and processes the signed request.
- NOTE: If any information does not match IRS records, the IRS will notify the tax filer that it was not able to provide the transcript.