



Financial Assistance
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2023-2024 Verification Facts

You have been selected for Verification

Verification is the process of evaluating the accuracy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The U.S Department of Education (ED) selects a percentage of FAFSA applications for verification each year. USI also reserves the right to select additional students for verification.

Affected Programs

Applicants selected for verification cannot receive Federal or State financial aid until the verification process is completed. If you are selected for verification after aid has been disbursed, certain types of aid will be returned to ED until verification has been completed.

The list below is not exhaustive. Contact us if you are receiving aid not represented below and you have questions.

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
- Federal Work Study
- Federal Direct Student and Parent PLUS Loans
- 21st Century Scholarship
- Frank O'Bannon Grant and State Performance Incentive Programs
- Adult Student Grant
- William A. Crawford Minority Teacher Scholarship

Notification of Selection

Applicants are initially notified of their selection for verification by ED on the Student Aid Report (SAR). Students are also notified by USI; primarily through the myUSI portal. Instructions for checking myUSI may be found online at <https://www.usi.edu/financial-aid/resources/forms-and-documents/instructions-to-checkaccept-financial-aid>. In addition, students will receive letters and e-mails to remind students of their responsibility.

Required Documents

ED customizes verification. ***You will need to check myUSI to see what requirements are specific to you. As we receive information from you and/or ED, we may be required to request additional documentation.***

Deadlines

You are strongly encouraged to submit all requested verification documents as soon as possible and our priority processing deadline is June 1. Processing times vary, but during peak times of the year such as July and August, processing may take up to 8 weeks or more.

- Some financial aid cannot be paid after the end of the term; therefore, all documents should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the end of the term for processing.
- The deadline to complete verification to receive Federal and State financial assistance is 120 days after the student's last date of attendance during the 2023-2024 academic year (or the 2023-2024 federal deadline as published in the *Federal Register*, whichever comes first).

Failure to complete verification by the deadline will result in reduction or cancellation of Federal and State financial aid.

Review of Documents

Once all documents have been received, USI will compare your documents to your FAFSA. If discrepancies are found, USI will make the necessary corrections to the FAFSA and it will be resubmitted electronically to ED for processing. ***Note: We are required to resolve conflicting information; therefore, worksheets may be sent back to you for confirmation and/or additional documentation may be requested.***

Notification of Results

If we must make corrections to the FAFSA, you will receive an updated Student Aid Report (SAR). The SAR will detail the items that were corrected, and it will provide a recalculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC). You will also receive an email informing you that verification has been completed and reminding you to check myUSI for updated award information.

Reporting Fraud

Students who purposely give false or misleading information on any of the verification documentation may be fined, sentenced to jail, or both. In cases where intent to commit fraud to obtain federal funds is suspected, USI will refer the case to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General for review and resolution. No further processing of financial aid will occur until the case has been resolved.

For the most accurate and up-to-date information please check your myUSI regularly!