

# VERIFICATION 2021-22 AND 2022-23

Benedict A. Dorsey | Training Officer  
U.S. Department of Education

*November 9, 2021*

# AGENDA

---

1. Hot Topics
2. 2021-2022 Verification
3. 2022-2023 Verification
4. V4/V5 Verification Reminders
5. Resources



# HOT TOPICS

---





# FUTURE ACT



- Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act; Passed December 19, 2019
- Amends Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code to allow direct data sharing between the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Federal Student Aid (FSA)
- FSA and IRS are collaborating to explore use of the amendments to Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code

# COVID-19 – VERIFICATION TIMEFRAME

December 11, 2020 Federal Register (HEROES) Notice and January 15, 2021 Electronic Announcement

- Verification waivers and flexibilities are applicable through the end of the payment period that *begins after* the date on which the Federally-declared national emergency related to COVID-19 is rescinded
- Verification waivers and flexibilities apply to any award year for which an institution may be completing verification
- Verification waivers and flexibilities are not award-year specific

# COVID-19 – PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT

---

*March 5, 2020, April 3, 2020, July 9, 2020, January 15, 2021 Electronic Announcements, and DCL GEN-21-02*

- FAAs have existing authority to use professional judgement
- FSA encourages FAAs to use professional judgment where students/families have been affected by COVID-19
- Professional judgment authority exists in statute and not limited to COVID-19 circumstances
- No COVID-19 expiration date

# VERIFICATION WAIVERS FOR 2021-2022

---

- Published July 13, 2021 (DCL GEN-21-05)
- Reflects changes for 2021-22 Verification requirements
  - Waiver begins July 13, 2021, and applies for the remainder of the 2021-2022 FAFSA processing and verification cycle
  - Verification not required for V1
  - Verification required for V4 and V5 is only for Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose and High School Completion status

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION





# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION

---



SAME DATA ITEMS



NO CHANGES TO THE  
VERIFICATION TRACKING  
GROUPS

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION TRACKING GROUPS

---

- V1 – Standard Verification Group
- *V2 – Reserved*
- *V3 – Reserved*
- V4 – Custom Verification Group
- V5 – Aggregate Verification Group
- *V6 – Reserved*

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION ITEMS

---

- 2019 income information to be verified (V1 and V5) – Tax Filer
  - Adjusted gross income (AGI)
  - U.S. income tax paid
  - Untaxed portions of IRA distributions and pensions
  - IRA deductions and payments
  - Tax-exempt interest income
  - Education credits
- 2019 income information to be verified (V1 and V5) – Nontax Filer
  - Income Earned from Work

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION ITEMS

---

- Household size (V1 and V5)
- Number in college (V1 and V5)
- High school completion status (V4 and V5)
- Identity (V4 and V5)
- Sign Statement of Educational Purpose (V4 and V5)

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION OF NONFILING

## Verification of Nonfiling (VNF) unavailable

- Individual may submit signed statement in lieu of VNF if:
  - Individual cannot obtain VNF from IRS, and
  - Institution has no reason to question student's or family's good-faith effort to obtain required documentation
- Signed statement must include:
  - Assertion that individual attempted but unable to get VNF
  - Non-tax filers must confirm nonfiling status, and list 2019 sources and amounts of income earned from work
  - Extension filers must confirm nonfiling status to date and list 2019 sources and amounts of income
    - Self-employed extension filers must list 2019 AGI and U.S. income tax paid

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION OF NONFILING

---

## Unable to obtain Verification of Nonfiling (VNF)

- Some individuals do not have:
  - Social Security Number (SSN),
  - Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), or
  - Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- These individuals must submit a signed and dated statement:
  - Certifying that individual does not have SSN, ITIN, or EIN; and
  - Listing sources and amounts of earnings, other income, and resources that supported individual for tax year 2019

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – FILING EXTENSION

---

- Individuals granted extension by IRS must submit:
  - Copy of IRS approval of extension beyond automatic six-month extension for tax year 2019
  - Verification of Non-filing Letter (VNF) from IRS dated on or after October 1, 2020
    - Or signed statement if VNF cannot be obtained
  - Copy of IRS Form W-2 or equivalent document for each source of 2019 employment income; and
  - If self-employed, signed statement certifying AGI amount and U.S. income tax paid for tax year 2019
- Institutions may require individual to submit tax information after filing:
  - Use IRS Data Retrieval Tool; or
  - Submit IRS Tax Transcript, or signed copy of income tax return and applicable schedules

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – AUTOMATIC ZERO EFC

## Dependent students

- Tracking group V1 or V5
  - Parents' AGI if tax filers, or
  - Parents' income earned from work if nontax filers
- Tracking group V4 or V5
  - High school completion status
  - Identity
  - Sign Statement of Educational Purpose





# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – AUTOMATIC ZERO EFC

## Independent students with dependents other than spouse

- Tracking group V1 or V5
  - Student and spouse's AGI if tax filers, or
  - Student and spouse's income earned from work if nontax filers;
  - Household size
- Tracking group V4 or V5
  - High school completion status
  - Identity
  - Sign Statement of Educational Purpose

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – ROLLOVERS

---

- IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) and tax transcript do not identify rollovers
- Tax filers must submit documentation of retirement account rollovers
  - Signed statement with rollover amount
  - “Rollover” notation by tax filer on tax transcript
    - Tax transcript must be signed and dated by filer
- Written statement acceptable for DRT users if only retirement information changed on application
  - Applicant must submit tax transcript if other tax information changed

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – AMENDED RETURNS

---

- Individuals filing amended tax return (IRS Form 1040X):
  - Signed copy of Form 1040X, and
  - IRS DRT information on ISIR record with all tax information from original income tax return, *or*
  - Tax transcript that includes all income and tax required to be verified, *or*
  - Signed copy of tax return and applicable schedules originally filed with IRS

# 2021-2022 VERIFICATION – AMENDED RETURNS

---

- IRS amending information on tax return:
  - Documentation from IRS listing changes, and
  - IRS DRT information on ISIR record with all tax information from original income tax return, *or*
  - Tax transcript that includes all income and tax required to be verified, *or*
  - Signed copy of tax return and applicable schedules originally filed with IRS

# 2021-2022 TAX RETURN MATRIX

---

- Reflects changes for 2019 Federal Tax Return/Transcripts and 2021-22 FAFSA® line references
- Federal Tax Form line numbers changed to show numerical order instead of maintaining original 1040 tax line
- IRS Tax Return Transcripts allow for the presentation of information from both old (pre-2018) and new (2018 and after) Form 1040, therefore some data fields may appear duplicated where there is no data for one field, but data for the other

# 2022-2023 VERIFICATION



# 2022-2023 VERIFICATION

---



NO CHANGES TO THE  
VERIFICATION TRACKING GROUPS



NOT SAME DATA ITEMS

Federal Register Notice – September 1, 2021, and DCL GEN-21-06

# 2022-2023 VERIFICATION TRACKING GROUPS

---

- V1 – Standard Verification Group
- *V2 – Reserved*
- *V3 – Reserved*
- V4 – Custom Verification Group
- V5 – Aggregate Verification Group
- *V6 – Reserved*



# 2022-2023 VERIFICATION ITEMS

---

- Federal Register Notice – September 1, 2021, and DCL GEN-21-06
  - Household size (V1 and V5)
  - Number in college (V1 and V5)
  - Identity (V4 and V5)
  - Sign Statement of Educational Purpose (V4 and V5)

# V4/V5 VERIFICATION REMINDERS





# V4/V5 Tracking Results

The V4 and V5 tracking process in FAA Access to CPS online, that began in the 2014-2015 processing year, continues

Schools need to select the proper award year for which they are providing results

<https://faaaccess.ed.gov>

# V4/V5 Tracking Results



START HERE  
GO FURTHER  
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FAA Access to CPS Online

Help FAQs

## FAA Access to CPS Online

NEED HELP?

### Welcome to the FAA Main Menu

Select an option from the following menu. It will be necessary to provide the TG# for your Destination Point and your Federal School Code:

- [Student Inquiry](#)  
View a student's Student Aid Report (SAR) information, including the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), NSLDS information, and SAR Comments. Compare two ISIR transactions for the same student using **ISIR Compare**. Submit a signature flag for an application in a signature hold status using the **Standalone FAA Signature** feature.
- **Application Entry**  
Enter a student's FAFSA/Renewal Application or Correction data and submit it to the CPS for processing.
  - [FAFSA/Renewal Application](#)
  - [Corrections](#)
- **Restore a Saved Application**  
Restore a partially completed and saved FAFSA/Renewal Application or Correction and submit it to the CPS for processing.
  - [FAFSA/Renewal Application](#)
  - [Corrections](#)
- [Identity Verification Results](#)  
Select the results of Identity and High School Diploma/GED verification efforts.
- [ISIR Request](#)  
Request ISIR data.
- [ISIR Analysis Tool](#)  
Analyze FAFSA information reported on the ISIR. Data is used to determine what impact changes to student-reported information had on EFC and Pell eligibility.
- [Return of Title IV Funds on the Web](#)  
Calculate and manage the return of Title IV funds. Data is collected, and the Return of Title IV Funds is calculated according to ED's Student Assistance General Provisions.
- [High School FAFSA Completion \(Pilot Participants Only\)](#) Request and view High School FAFSA Completion data. Access to this new feature is limited to participating state agencies, local educational agencies and secondary schools enrolled in the High School FAFSA Completion Pilot Initiative.

NEED HELP?

EXIT

Site last updated: Sunday, November 4, 2012

# V4/V5 TRACKING RESULTS

---

- **Whom to report:** Students for whom school received an ISIR with a verification Tracking Group of V4 or V5 *AND* for whom school requested verification documentation
  - Do not include students the *school* selected
- **When to report:** Within 60 days following the institution's first request for documentation
  - Changes to previously submitted verification results must be updated within 30 days



# V4/V5 TRACKING RESULTS

1. Verification completed in person; no issues found
2. Verification completed remotely; no issues found
3. Verification attempted; issues found with identity
4. Verification attempted; issues found with high school completion (no longer valid in 2022-23)
5. No response from applicant or unable to locate
6. Issues with both identity and high school completion (no longer valid in 2022-2023)

# RESOURCES

---



# RESOURCES - KNOWLEDGE CENTER

---

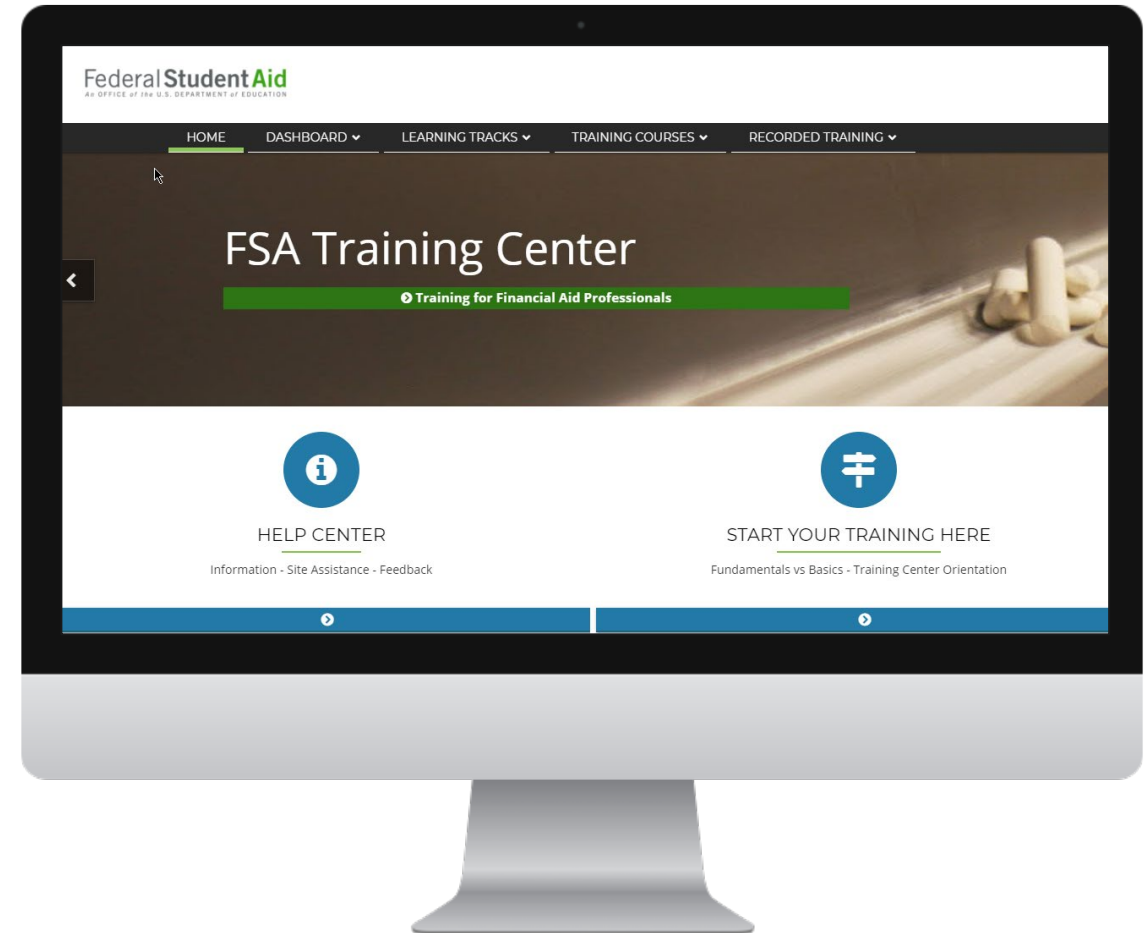
- FSA Handbook
  - Application and Verification Guide
  - Volume 1: Student Eligibility
  - Volume 2, Chapter 3: School Eligibility and Operations
- FSA Assessments
  - Verification, Activity 1: Resolving Conflicting Data
- ISIR Guide and SAR Comment Code and Text Guide



# FSA TRAINING CENTER

[fsatraining.ed.gov](https://fsatraining.ed.gov)

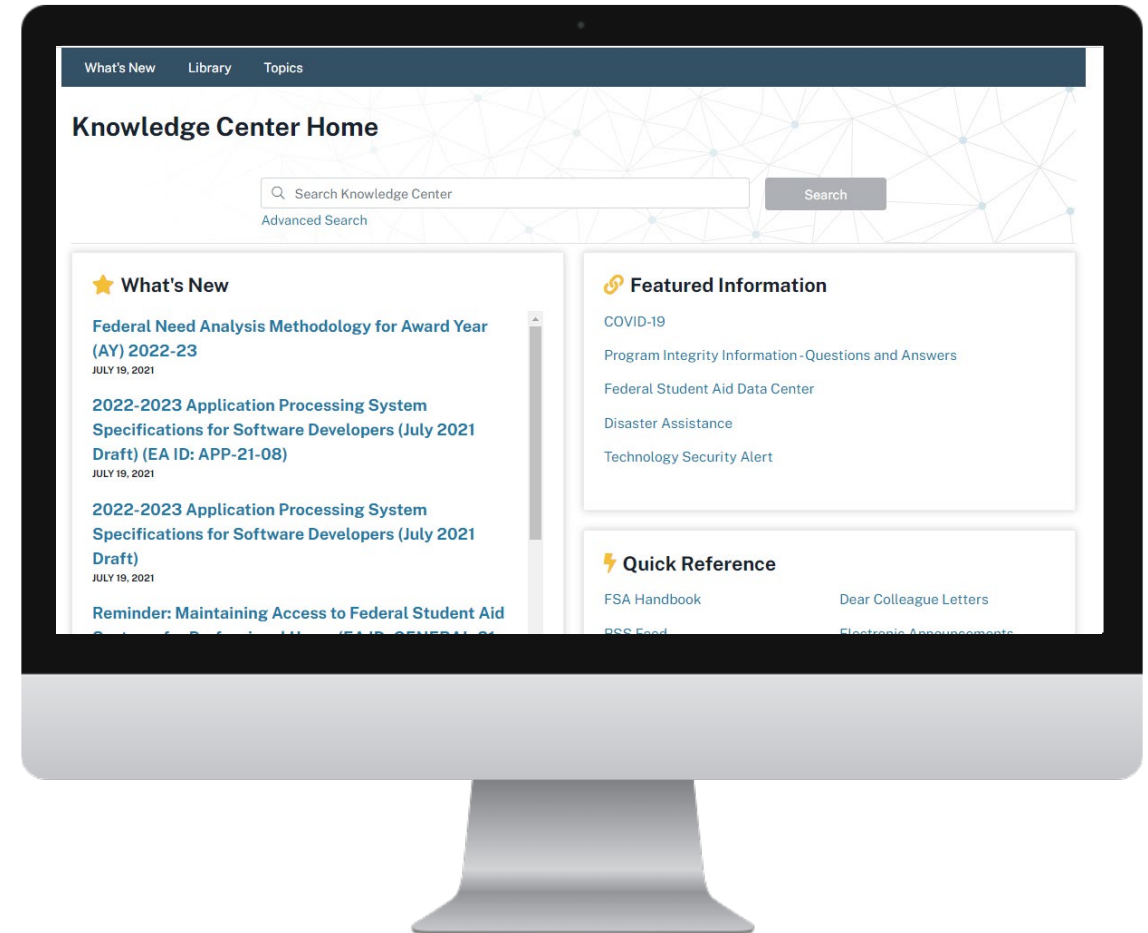
Check out learning tracks, software training, recorded policy videos here, and register for *FSA Fundamentals Training* series or *FSA Basics for New Staff* course.



# KNOWLEDGE CENTER

[fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center](https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center)

IFAP is now the Knowledge Center!  
Subscribe for daily or weekly email  
updates.



# GETTING HELP

[fsapartners.ed.gov/help-center/](https://fsapartners.ed.gov/help-center/)

For policy questions, use *Contact Customer Support Form* in Help Center on FSA Partner Connect. Choose “Ask A Fed/Policy” in Topic dropdown list.

Help Center > Contact Customer Support

## Contact Customer Support

Please complete the Customer Support form if you have a question or would like to provide feedback. If you need further assistance, please contact the School Relations Center during its operating hours.

### Contact Customer Support

All fields marked with an asterisk ( \* ) are required.

\* First Name

\* Last Name

\* Email Address

\* Topic

- Select-
- Select-
- Account Access
- FSA Ask-A-Fed / Policy**
- FSA Handbook
- Financial Aid Delivery
- General
- Knowledge Center
- Partner Connect Feedback
- Partner Dashboard

### School Relations Center

Phone	Phone Support Hours
1-800-848-0978	Monday-Friday: 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Eastern Time

# TRAINING FEEDBACK

---

- All attendees receive email from FSA with link to online evaluation
  - Helps ensure quality training
  - Informs FSA of areas for improvement
  - Serves as effective tool for “listening” to our school partners

# QUESTIONS

---

