



2026-2027 Independent Verification Worksheet

Verification Required

The U.S. Department of Education selected your FAFSA for verification. Verification is a standard review process used to confirm information reported on your FAFSA before federal financial aid can be finalized.

Section 1: Student Information

Student Name _____ IWU Student ID _____

Address _____ Date of Birth _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
Email _____

Section 2: Household Information

List all members of your household.

Include:

- Yourself
- Your spouse (if married)
- Your children if you provide more than half of their support
- Other individuals who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you

Full Name	Age	Relationship	College (if applicable)
<i>Missy Jones (example)</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Me</i>	<i>Illinois Wesleyan University</i>

Section 3: Financial Information

SNAP Benefits (Food Assistance)

Did you or anyone in your household receive SNAP benefits during 2024?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes: Provide documentation if requested by the Financial Aid Office.

Foreign Income Exclusion

Did you claim a foreign earned income exclusion on your 2024 federal tax return?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes:

Amount Excluded: \$ _____

Required Documentation:

☐ Signed copy of 2024 Federal Tax Return including all schedules

Child Support Received

Did you receive child support during 2024?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If Yes:

Amount Received During 2024: \$ _____

Source of Child Support: _____

Child(ren) Supported: _____

Documentation may be requested.

Section 4: Independent Student Status Review

Please answer each question.

For any question answered "Yes," attach the required documentation listed.

Question	Yes	No	Documentation Required
1. At any time since turning age 13, were both of your parents deceased?	☐	☐	Death certificates (if requested)
2. At any time since turning age 13, were you in foster care?	☐	☐	Foster care documentation
3. At any time since turning age 13, were you a dependent or ward of the court?	☐	☐	Court documentation
4. Are you currently or were you previously an emancipated minor as determined by a court?	☐	☐	Court order
5. Are you currently or were you previously in a legal guardianship as determined by a court?	☐	☐	Court order
6. Were you determined by your high school, district homeless liaison, shelter director, or HUD-funded program to be an unaccompanied homeless youth?	☐	☐	Supporting documentation
7. Were you determined by a Runaway and	☐	☐	Supporting documentation

Question	Yes	No	Documentation Required
Homeless Youth program director to be an unaccompanied homeless youth?			
8. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?	☐	☐	DD-214 or military documentation
9. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?	☐	☐	Military orders
10. Are you married?	☐	☐	Marriage documentation if requested
11. Do you have children who receive more than half of their support from you?	☐	☐	Additional documentation if requested
12. Do you have other dependents who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you?	☐	☐	Additional documentation if requested
13. Have there been any changes to your household or dependency circumstances since filing the FAFSA?	☐	☐	Explanation and supporting documents

Section 5: Undocumented Homeless and Unaccompanied

If you do not have any documentation from a legal party listed previously, please answer the following questions to determine if you meet the definition of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth or A Youth who is Unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self-supporting.

FAA Determination Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

1. In which of the following situations does the student currently reside, or in which situation would the student reside if not staying in on-campus housing (you may choose more than one)?

- ☐ Motel
- ☐ Car
- ☐ Campsite
- ☐ Shelter or other temporary housing program
- ☐ Substandard housing (insufficient to meet the physical and psychological needs typically met in a home environment
- ☐ Temporarily staying with others due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason

2. If the student is staying with another household, check the circumstances that apply

- ☐ Loss of housing
- ☐ Economic hardship resulting in inability to secure and maintain fixed, regular, and adequate housing
- ☐ Other (ex. Unsafe environment, forced to leave home, abuse/conflict)

FAA Determination of a Youth who is Unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self-supporting

1. Is the student self-supporting? (The student is responsible for his or her own living expenses, including fixed, regular and adequate housing.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

2. Is the student's housing likely to cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate? Is the student at-risk of homelessness due to eviction or other loss of housing?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 6: Additional Information

Use this section to explain any special circumstances related to the questions above.

Section 7: Required Documentation Checklist

Before submitting this worksheet, please review the checklist below.

Required for All Students

- ☐ Completed worksheet
- ☐ Student signature
- ☐ Date signed

Additional Documents (if applicable)

- ☐ 2024 Federal Tax Return and schedules
- ☐ Child support documentation
- ☐ Foster care documentation
- ☐ Court documentation
- ☐ Guardianship documentation
- ☐ Military documentation
- ☐ Homeless youth documentation
- ☐ Other requested documentation



Certification and Signature

I certify that all information reported on this worksheet and any accompanying documentation is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that intentionally providing false or misleading information may result in changes to my financial aid eligibility and may be subject to federal penalties.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Spouse Signature (if applicable) _____

Date _____

Office Use Only

Date Received _____

Reviewed By _____

Verification Complete _____