



2026-2027 Independent Verification Worksheet

Your application was selected for review in a process called “Verification.” In this process, the Financial Aid Office will be comparing information from your FAFSA application with your 2024 federal tax return information, W-2 forms and any other requested financial documents. The law says the Financial Aid Office has the right to ask you for this information before awarding federal aid. If there are differences between your application information and your financial information, the Financial Aid Office may need to make corrections electronically to your FAFSA application.

What you should do:

1. Complete and sign the worksheet—you must sign this worksheet.
2. Contact the IWU Financial Aid Office if you have questions about completing this worksheet.
3. Submit the completed worksheet and any other documents to the Financial Aid Office.

Student Information

Student’s Legal Name (Print)

Student ID Number

Address (including Apt Number)

City

St

Zip Code

Phone Number (include area code)

Family Information

List the people in your household, including:

- Yourself
- Spouse (If Applicable)- Any dependents that you provide more than 50% of their living expenses. (If Applicable)
- Any other person that may be living with you who you support more than 50% of their living expenses. (If Applicable)

Full Name	Age	Relationship
<i>Missy Jones (example)</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Sister</i>

Additional Financial Questions

A. Did you receive SNAP (food stamps) Benefits during 2024? **Do not leave blank.**

Y

N

B. Did you claim a foreign income exclusion on the 2024 tax return? If so, how much was claimed? *If yes, please submit a signed copy of your 2024 tax return with all schedules.* **Do not leave blank.**

Y

N

Foreign Income Amount Claimed \$ _____

C. In 2024, did you receive child support? If so, how much was received during the calendar year?
Do not leave blank.

Y

N

Child Support Amount Received \$ _____

Additional Independent Student Questions

1. Were you born before January 1, 2003? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. As of today, are you married? (if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced. "As of today" refers to the day that you sign your FAFSA.

3. At the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Are you currently serving on active duty or a veteran in the U.S. Armed? (if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Answer "Yes" (you are a veteran) if you (1) have engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard) or are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, **and** (2) were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Also answer "Yes" if you are not a veteran now but will be by June 30, 2026. Answer "No" (you are not a veteran) if you (1) have never engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, (2) are currently an ROTC student or a cadet or

midshipman at a service academy, (3) are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee activated only for state or training purposes, or (4) were engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces but released under dishonorable conditions.

6. Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2027? (if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2027? (if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

Answer "Yes" if you had no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are now adopted. Answer "Yes" if you were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today. Answer "Yes" if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. Note that the IWU Financial Aid Office may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or a dependent or ward of the court. (if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

9. Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? (if yes, please provide legal documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? (if yes, please provide legal documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how much financial support did your legal guardian(s) provide in 2025 and how much do they plan to provide in 2026? 2025 _____ 2026 _____

For the following questions, answer "Yes" if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2025 that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless.

"Homeless" means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, motels or cars, or temporarily living with other people because you had nowhere else to go.

"Unaccompanied" means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.

"Youth" means you are 21 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign the FAFSA.

11. At any time on or after July 1, 2025, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?

(if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

12. At any time on or after July 1, 2025, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?

(if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

13. At any time on or after July 1, 2025, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied

youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

(if yes, please provide documentation) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered “No” to all of these questions but still believe you should be declared independent, please explain:

Student Signature

This form requires a manual signature, not electronic. Please sign and date below. I certify that all the information reported to qualify for federal student aid is complete and correct.

Signature _____

Date _____