

2016-2017 INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION WORKSHEET

Southern Wesleyan University
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www.swu.edu

Student's Last Name, First Name, M.I.

SWU ID # **OR** Last 4 digits Social Security Number

E-mail Address

Phone Number

WHY MUST I COMPLETE THIS WORKSHEET?

Your 2016-2017 financial aid application has been selected for a review process called "verification." Federal law requires the applicant and his/her family to participate in the verification process, which is used to ensure the accuracy of the information reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). When all information is received, it will be reviewed for accuracy, and conflicting or inconsistent information will be corrected. **Note: If you have applied for an extension for filing the 2015 Federal Tax Return, a copy of the approved extension must be submitted. No financial aid will be disbursed until all verification documents have been submitted.**

SECTION 1- Household Information

Please list below the people you (and your spouse) will support *between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017*.

Include:

- Yourself, your spouse, and dependent children (including step-children; **DO NOT** include foster children).
- Other people ONLY if they live with you and receive more than half their support from you now AND will continue to receive this support through June 30, 2017.
- The college/university attended by household members who will be pursuing a degree at least halftime (usually 6 hours/semester) in 2016-17.

Full Name of Family Member IN Your Household (INCLUDING spouse/children)	Relationship to Student	Age	Name of College/University in 2016-17
1. You, the student	Self		Southern Wesleyan University
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

SECTION 2—Additional Financial Information

Complete this section **ONLY IF** the student or spouse answered on the FAFSA that you RECEIVED Food Stamps or PAID Child Support in 2015?

1. Did the student, spouse, or anyone in the household (listed in Section 1) receive Food Stamps in 2014 or 2015?

Yes No

2. \$ _____ 2015 child support **PAID** (NOT RECEIVED) because of divorce or separation as a result of a legal requirement. Do NOT include support for children in your (or your spouse's) household, as reported in Section 1.

Name of Child(ren) for Whom Child Support Was Paid	Age of Child(ren) for Whom Child Support Was Paid

Name of the person to whom child support was paid: _____

Signature of Parent who paid child support: _____

SECTION 3—Tax Income Information

1. DID YOU (THE STUDENT) HAVE ANY INCOME IN 2015? YES OR NO (CIRCLE ONE)

CHECK ONE BOX ONLY:

- CHECK HERE IF YOU FILED A 2015 FEDERAL TAX RETURN.
- CHECK HERE IF YOU WILL FILE A 2015 FEDERAL TAX RETURN.
- CHECK HERE IF YOU WILL NOT FILE AND ARE NOT REQUIRED TO FILE A FEDERAL TAX RETURN.

\$ _____ IF YOU **DID NOT** FILE A TAX RETURN BUT HAD EARNINGS FROM WORK, LIST THE AMOUNT YOU EARNED. ENTER A ZERO IF NO EARNINGS. PROVIDE ALL W-2s, MISC-1099s, AND/OR SSA-1099 FORMS TO DOCUMENT YOUR EARNINGS IF YOU DID NOT FILE A RETURN.

2. DID YOUR SPOUSE HAVE ANY INCOME IN 2015? YES OR NO (CIRCLE ONE)

CHECK ONE BOX ONLY:

- CHECK HERE IF YOUR SPOUSE FILED A 2015 FEDERAL TAX RETURN.
- CHECK HERE IF YOUR SPOUSE WILL FILE A 2015 FEDERAL TAX RETURN.
- CHECK HERE IF YOUR SPOUSE WILL NOT FILE AND IS NOT REQUIRED TO FILE A FEDERAL TAX RETURN.

\$ _____ IF YOUR SPOUSE **DID NOT** FILE A TAX RETURN BUT HAD EARNINGS FROM WORK, LIST THE AMOUNT YOUR SPOUSE EARNED. ENTER A ZERO IF NO EARNINGS. PROVIDE ALL W-2s, MISC-1099s, AND/OR SSA-1099 FORMS TO DOCUMENT YOUR EARNINGS IF YOU DID NOT FILE A RETURN.

***** SEE LAST PAGE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON OBTAINING A TAX TRANSCRIPT OR USING THE IRS DRT FEATURE ON THE FAFSA.**

SECTION 4—Student & Spouse Certification

I (WE) CERTIFY ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

Student Signature (REQUIRED) _____ Date _____

Spouse Signature (OPTIONAL) _____ Date _____

 Please review the information you have provided for accuracy. This could save valuable time.

DID YOU REMEMBER TO...

- Proof read this entire worksheet for accuracy. If pertinent information is left blank, this form will be returned and may affect your student financial aid eligibility.**
 - Request a tax return transcript or use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) on the FAFSA. Obtain tax return transcripts one of three ways:**
 - Sign-in to your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov and use the IRS data retrieval tool on the financial section. If eligible, it will transfer your information from the IRS database directly to your FAFSA. **You are NOT eligible to use the DRT if you or your spouse filed any of the following:**
 - **As Married Filing Separately**
 - **As Head of Household**
 - **An amended return**
 - **A Puerto Rican or foreign tax return.**
- If you have questions about how to use the IRS data retrieval tool, you can access an instructional video from SWU's website at <http://www.swu.edu/admissions/residential-campus/financial-aid/fafsa>. If you successfully use the IRS retrieval tool, we will not need a tax transcript from you. In essence, the IRS data retrieval tool will alleviate the need for a tax transcript. If you e-filed your tax return, you will need to wait approximately 10 to 14 days before using the IRS retrieval tool. If you filed your return by mail, you will need to wait approximately 6-8 weeks before using the IRS data retrieval tool.
- Go to <http://www.irs.gov> and click on the "Order a Return or Account Transcript" link. Be sure to request the "IRS Tax Return Transcript." **DO NOT REQUEST THE "IRS Tax Account Transcript."** Be sure to send us a copy and to keep the original because **the IRS only allows one request for a tax transcript per year.**
 - Call the IRS at 1-800-908-9946 to request a tax transcript.

WARNING: If you purposely omit or give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.

Questions? Please contact your Financial Aid Counselor for assistance at:

Last Name A-K

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Last Name L-Z

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