

# Illinois Wesleyan University

## Independent Verification Worksheet

### 2025-2026

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 (and spouse if applicable) 2023 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. If you haven’t done so already, use the Direct Data Exchange on your FAFSA application to import your IRS Tax Information to the FAFSA and submit it to process the correction.
2. Complete and sign the worksheet—you must sign this worksheet.
3. Talk to your financial aid administrator if you have questions about completing this worksheet.
4. Submit the completed worksheet and any other documents the Financial Aid Office requests to the Financial Aid Office.

<b>Student Information</b>
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Student’s Legal Name (Print)	Student ID Number
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Address (including Apt Number)
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City	St	Zip Code	Phone Number (include area code)
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<b>Family Information</b>
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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. (If Applicable)

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

# 2023 Additional Financial Information

**Do not leave any box or line item blank.**

A. Did the parent receive SNAP (food stamps) Benefits during 2023? **Do not leave blank.**

Y

N

B. Did you claim a foreign income exclusion on the 2023 tax return? If so, how much was claimed? *If yes, please submit a signed copy of the student and/or spouse's 2023 tax return with all schedules.* **Do not leave blank.**

Y

N

Student \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \$ \_\_\_\_\_

C. In 2023, did you and/or your spouse (if applicable) receive child support? If so, how much was received during the calendar year? **Do not leave blank.**

Y

N

Student \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please understand you will have to consent for the Direct Data Exchange through the FAFSA if you (parent or student) filed a 2023 Tax return. That process will be available on your FAFSA two to three weeks after you have submitted an IRS tax return electronically or 8 weeks after you have filed a tax return through U.S. Mail. The student and custodial parent must sign this form.

## Independent Student Questions

1. Were you born before January 1, 2002?  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 2025-2026 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)?

Yes  No

4. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? (if yes, please provide documentation)  Yes  No

**5. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?**

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, 2025. 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. (if yes, please provide documentation)  Yes  No

**6. Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026?** (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, now and through June 30, 2026?** (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

*For the following questions, answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship. Also answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court’s decision was issued.*

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

**If yes, how much financial support did your legal guardian(s) provide in 2024 and how much do they plan to provide in 2025? 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ 2025 \_\_\_\_\_**

*For the following questions, answer “Yes” if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2023 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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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:**

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**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_