



Department of Financial Aid – Aycok Hall
Carrollton, Georgia 30118
PHONE: 678-839-6421
FAX: 678-839-6422

2007-2008 INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

Your FAFSA application has been selected for a process called “Verification”. In this process, we will be comparing information from your application with your (and spouse’s if married) 2006 federal tax return and household information that is requested on the verification form. During this process if there is conflicting data, additional documentation will be required to obtain an accurate calculation.

Please read and follow these instructions to complete the attached verification form. Failure to answer each question will delay the process of your application and may result in loss of institutional funding.

Section A – 2006 Income Tax Information

You must provide your (and spouse’s if married) 2006 federal income tax returns plus all 2006 W-2 forms. Acceptable forms include a **signed copy of the original**: 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ submitted to the IRS. **Form 8453 is not acceptable.** During this process you may be required to submit a confirmation or statement from IRS and/or an amended tax return should it be determined that there is conflicting data with what you have submitted.

Financial aid administrators (FAA’s) must have a fundamental understanding of relevant tax issues that can considerably affect the need analysis. Because conflicting data often involves such information, FAA’s are obligated to know: whether a person was required to file a tax return, what the correct filing status for a person should be, and that an individual cannot be claimed as an exemption by more than one person or claim a person that they have not supported. For example, a FAA noticing that a dependent student’s married parents have each filed as “head of household” (which offers a greater tax deduction than filing as single or married) might question whether that is the correct filing status. Visit www.irs.gov for Publication 17 of the IRS, *Your Federal Income Tax*, describes on p. 25 the requirements that a person must meet to file as head of household. **An amended tax return may be required before you can be awarded aid.**

Marital Status: Please check the appropriate box for your status as of this day and give date of this status. (i.e.; if married give wedding date, if divorced date of final decree). **If you are married at the time the FAFSA is completed you must include your spouse’s income tax information.**

Section B - Household members and who will be in college

List the people in your household: include (a) yourself, (b) your spouse if married; (c) your children (biological and step-children) only if you will provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008; and (d) any other people if they now live with you, and only if you provide more than half of their support and will continue to provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Do not include those who live in your household that work and provide for themselves or receive social security or disability unless you provide more than their benefits provide. **(Adequate documents may be required i.e. legal guardianship, proof of foster care, income tax forms or 1099).**

Who will be in college:

Write in the name of the college for any family member listed in your household who will be attending college at least half-time (6 hours per semester or quarter) between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, **and** will be enrolled in a degree seeking undergraduate or graduate program or certification program. Confirmation may be required.

Section C – Worksheets

These sections must be completed by student (and spouse if married). If the answer to a question is zero, write zero in the space provided, otherwise the Verification Form will be returned to you. Questions regarding Social Security must include benefits for all family members listed in the household. Questions regarding child support requires the names of children that support is paid and/or received for. **If support received is zero and there are children under 18 years of age please explain why support is not received.** This form will be returned if this is left blank. Divorce decree may be requested. Question regarding grants and scholarships is only applicable if reported on your 2006 federal tax forms.

SECTION D – Signatures

Student's signature is required on the back of the verification worksheet.

Have you followed the instruction sheet for completing the verification form? Please use the checklist below to make sure it is completed properly; failure to do so will cause the form to be returned to you and will delay the process and may result in loss of institutional funding.

Checklist:

- 1) Go over entire verification form; is every question answered? _____
- 2) Did you indicate the type of tax form filed? If filed, please enclose a signed copy with this form _____
- 3) Was there untaxed income? Be sure to report this amount in Section C. _____
- 4) Did you list yourself, your spouse if married and any other persons that you will support in household size? _____
- 5) Did you answer each question in Section C worksheets? You must do so even if it is zero. _____
- 6) Did you sign the Verification Form? Application will be returned if not. _____
- 7) Detach at the perforation and mail the Verification Form.



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NAME: _____ SS/UWG ID#: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____ EMAIL: _____ @my.westga.edu

I will live: ___ on campus ___ off campus ___ with parents If on campus; P.O. Box _____

If off campus; local address: _____

Please mark all questions below with an (X) that applies to you and your spouse if married

SECTION A - 2006 INCOME TAX INFORMATION: Please follow instruction sheet

You are required to submit signed copies of 2006 Federal Tax Returns and ALL 2006 W-2 forms for student and spouse.

STUDENT TAX INFORMATION:

2006 taxes filed and attached _____
 Worked but 2006 tax will not be filed _____ (W-2 required)
 I will not file 2006 tax _____

SPOUSE'S TAX INFORMATION:

2006 taxes filed and attached _____
 Worked but 2006 tax will not be filed _____ (W-2 required)
 Will not file 2006 tax _____ (Confirmation may be required from IRS)

OTHER UNTAXED INCOME RECEIVED:

Disability _____
 Workers Comp _____
 Social Security _____
 Other untaxed _____
 (Report amounts in worksheets)

STUDENT'S MARITAL STATUS AS OF THIS DAY:

Single _____ give date of this status: _____
 Married _____
 Separated _____
 Divorced _____
 Widowed _____

SECTION B – HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND WHO WILL BE IN COLLEGE: Please follow instruction sheet

List members of household	Age	Relationship to Student	If this person will attend College half time or more in 2007-2008, list the name of the college
		Student	University of West Georgia

SECTION C - WORKSHEETS: Please follow instruction sheet

Worksheet A (Report Annual Amount)

Answer each question, if amount is zero write in zero

	Student	Spouse
Earned income credit from IRS Form 1040-line 66a; 1040A- line 41a, or 1040 EZ-line 8a,	\$ _____	\$ _____
Additional child tax credit from IRS Form 1040-line 68 or 1040A- line 42	\$ _____	\$ _____
Welfare benefits, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Don't include food stamps or subsidized housing	\$ _____	\$ _____
Social Security benefits received, for all household members that were not taxed.	\$ _____	\$ _____

PLEASE NOTE: You are not finished – you must continue and complete the back of this sheet and sign. —>

Detach at the perforation and mail the Verification Form.

Student's name: _____ SS/UWG ID # _____

SECTION C- WORKSHEETS: CONTINUED

Worksheet B (Report Annual Amounts)

Answer each question, if amount is zero write in zero

	Student	Spouse
Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans reported on the W-2 Form in Boxes 12 a through 12d, Codes D, E, F, G, H and S	\$ _____	\$ _____
IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040 –add lines 28 + 32 or 1040A – line 17	\$ _____	\$ _____
Child support you received for all children. (Don't include foster care or adoption payments) List names of children:	*** \$ _____	\$ _____
You must explain below if you have dependent children and the amount is zero		

Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040 or 1040A- line 8b	\$ _____	\$ _____
Foreign income exclusion from IRS Form 2555-line 43 or 2555EZ-line 18	\$ _____	\$ _____
Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040-lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A -lines (11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040-lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A-lines (12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Credit for federal tax on special fuels from IRS Form 4136-line 15 – (non-farmers only)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Housing, food, and other living allowances paid to members of the <u>military, clergy and others</u> (including cash payments and cash value of benefits)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Veteran's non - education benefits such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other untaxed income not reported elsewhere on Worksheets A & B, (e.g., workers compensation, untaxed portions of railroad retirement benefits, Black Lung Benefits, disability, combat pay not reported on the tax return, etc.) Don't include student aid, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, non-tax filers combat pay, or benefits from flexible spending arrangements, e.g., cafeteria plans	\$ _____	\$ _____
Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g. bills by family, friends or churches) not reported elsewhere on this form	\$ _____	\$ _____

Worksheet C (Report Annual Amounts)

Answer each question, if amount is zero write in zero

Education credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits) from IRS Form 1040-line 50 or 1040A-line 31	\$ _____	\$ _____
Child support you paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your household. List names of children: ***	*** \$ _____	\$ _____

Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships	\$ _____	\$ _____
Student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your (or your parents') adjusted gross income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant or scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.	\$ _____	\$ _____

SECTION D – Signature required

I have read and completed this verification worksheet based on the instruction sheet and certify that all of the information provided on this form is accurate.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

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