

## Why are you being asked to do this?

Since the 2016-2017 FAFSA and the 2017-2018 FAFSA require the **same 2015 income & tax information**, it is important that the financial data on both FAFSAs match. If you report different income and tax information on either FAFSA, the discrepancy must be resolved in order to confirm your aid eligibility. Federal regulations require our Financial Aid Office to resolve any conflicts in information provided on the FAFSA, documents provided by the family, and any other information provided to other campus offices.

- While processing an applicant's 2017-2018 FAFSA, the Dept. of ED performs an automatic review if there is also a 2016-2017 FAFSA on file for the applicant. This review determines if there might be conflicting information between the two FAFSAs.
- The Dept. of ED will require more information and resolution only on those 2017-2018 FAFSAs where any potential differences, once resolved, would have a significant impact on the student's 2017-2018 Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and eligibility for federal aid.
- If the Dept. of ED finds significant discrepancies, your 2017-2018 Student Aid Report (SAR) will have the following Comment Message:

*Your Financial Aid Administrator may contact you to resolve any issues related to differences in the 2015 income information you reported on your 2016-2017 FAFSA and 2017-2018 FAFSA.*

## What happens next?

- Our Financial Aid office will compare the 2015 income and tax related questions from both years' FAFSAs to determine which income or tax items are in conflict. We will do this using your student's financial aid records that we have on file.
- We may then ask you for additional information in a similar manner to the Verification process. This may include copies of your W-2 forms, 2015 Income Tax Returns, or other documentation to support the information you have entered on the FAFSAs so we can determine which answer is correct.
- We may also ask you to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to supply 2015 tax data on one or both of the FAFSA applications (2016-2017 FAFSA or the 2017-2018) if you haven't already done so.

**Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool is the fastest, easiest and most secure way to supply 2015 federal income tax information at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>**

### Questions?

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