



State University of New York College of  
**Environmental Science and Forestry**

Dear SUNY ESF Student:

Your application for financial aid (FAFSA) has been selected for a process called verification. Your prompt attention is essential and appreciated - **no federal aid will be disbursed or appear on your billing statement until this process is completed.**

### **2020-2021 Federal Verification of FAFSA Information**

**What is Verification?** Verification is a federal financial aid requirement in which the Federal Central Processing System (CPS) randomly selects Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applicants for verification (which will be noted on your "Student Aid Report" or "SAR"). **All requested documents should be submitted in full by June 30, 2020 or three weeks from the date of this letter, whichever is later.** Once the required documentation is received, the self-reported information on the FAFSA will be compared to the data on the IRS Tax Return and other financial documents. If any mistakes are found on the FAFSA the school will make the necessary corrections on your behalf.

**What documents are needed for Verification?** Dependent students who are selected for verification will need to complete the following steps:

1. Students - verify high school completion status.
2. Students - verify identity and sign statement of educational purpose.
3. Students and parents must fully complete and submit the included verification worksheet. The worksheet instructions will provide guidance on completing each requirement. Please be sure to read all instructions carefully and only complete required sections as indicated.

**How should documentation be submitted?** All documentation should be submitted to:

SUNY-ESF Office of Financial Aid  
113 Bray Hall  
1 Forestry Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13210  
(315) 470-6670  
(315) 470-4734 (Fax)

Please do not e-mail any confidential information. You may also submit documentation using the document upload function available through the student's login to the MyESF portal – <http://myesf.esf.edu>.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please call us at 315-470-6670 or e-mail us at [finaid@esf.edu](mailto:finaid@esf.edu).

Sincerely,

Mark J. Hill  
Director of Financial Aid

Your application for federal student aid (FAFSA) was selected by the U.S. Department of Education for a process called verification. Please complete this worksheet entirely and return it to the Office of Financial Aid along with all required documentation. Documentation may be submitted using postal mail or fax with the contact information above, or through the student's account on the secure MyESF portal at <http://myesf.esf.edu>. Please do not e-mail any verification information.

### Student Information Section

_____	_____	_____	_____
Last	First	MI	SSN – Last 4 Digits
_____			_____
Address			Date of Birth
_____	_____	_____	_____
City	State	ZIP	Phone Number

### High School Completion Status Section

The student must provide documentation that indicates high school completion status. If one of the items below is checked, SUNY ESF has already obtained acceptable documentation through the admissions process. If no box is checked, the student will need to provide one of the listed items. The student should contact the Office of Financial Aid to discuss other options if none of the listed items are available.

- A copy of the student's high school diploma.
- A copy of the student's final official high school transcript that shows the date when the diploma was awarded.
- A State certificate or transcript received by a student after the student passed a State-authorized examination that the State recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma (GED test, HiSET, TASC, or other State-authorized examination).
- An academic transcript that indicates the student successfully completed at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree.
- For a student who was homeschooled in a State where State law requires the student to obtain a secondary school completion credential for homeschooling (other than a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent), a copy of that credential.
- For a student who was homeschooled in a State where State law does not require the student to obtain a secondary school completion credential for homeschooling (other than a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent), a transcript, or the equivalent, signed by the student's parent or guardian, that lists the secondary school courses the student completed and includes a statement that the student successfully completed a secondary school education in a homeschool setting.
- For students who completed secondary education in a foreign country, a copy of the "secondary school leaving certificate" or other similar document.

## Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose Section

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The student must appear in person at SUNY ESF to verify his or her identity by presenting an unexpired valid government-issued photo identification (ID), such as, but not limited to, a driver's license, other state-issued ID, or passport. The institution will maintain a copy of the student's photo ID that is annotated by the institution with the date it was received and reviewed and the name of the official at the institution authorized to receive and review the student's ID.

In addition, the student must sign, in the presence of the institutional official, the Statement of Educational Purpose provided below.

### Statement of Educational Purpose

I certify that I \_\_\_\_\_ am the individual signing this *Statement of Educational Purpose* and that the Federal student financial assistance I may receive will only be used for educational purposes and to pay the cost of attending SUNY ESF for 2020-2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's ID Number

## Signatures and Certification Section

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Each person signing this worksheet certifies that all the information reported on it is complete and correct. The student and one parent whose information was reported on the FAFSA must sign and date. If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.

**IMPORTANT NOTE – "WET" SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED. DO NOT TYPE NAMES, USE IMAGES, MOUSE/TOUCHPAD DRAW SIGNATURES, ETC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Reminders:

- Do not e-mail any verification material. You may submit using postal mail, fax, or the upload function available in the financial aid section of the student's account on the MyESF portal.
- Remember that the student and one parent whose information is provided on the FAFSA must sign the verification worksheet.
- Remember that the Statement of Education Purpose Section must be done in-person.
- You must bring an original unexpired, valid, government issued photo ID.