Verification

When completing the FAFSA, students may be selected for a process called Verification. Verification is the process schools use to confirm that the data reported on your FAFSA form is accurate. If you are selected for verification, you will need to provide additional documentation that supports the information reported on the FAFSA form.

Selection Process

You may be selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) or the college. Although DOE typically selects which applications are to be verified, schools also have the authority to select students for verification.

Whether selected for verification by the DOE or LSCO, you are required to complete the verification process to receive federal or state financial aid at the college.

Deadlines to Complete Verification

2022-2023
- The deadline for submitting verification documents is August 31, 2023.

2023-2024
- The deadline for submitting verification documents is September 13th, 2024.

Consequences for Failure to Submit Documentation

We encourage you to begin the verification process within 7 days of receiving notification from either Verification Gateway or LSCO to ensure you receive your financial aid in time for payments. Failure to complete the verification process could result in the delay or denial of your financial aid.

Applications Selected by the Department of Education for Verification

Lamar State College Orange has established a partnership with Inceptia to expedite the federal verification process for students selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE). Verification Gateway (VG) from Inceptia is an online portal to guide students and parents through verification.

If your FAFSA application is selected for verification by the U.S Department of Education (DOE), you will be notified of your status as follows:
1. Your verification status will be noted on your Student Aid Report (SAR) that you receive after completing the FAFSA form. There will be an asterisk next to your EFC referring to a comment in the student section of the SAR that tells you that you will be asked to provide information to your school for verification;
2. You will receive an email from the school notifying you of the request for additional information.
3. You will receive an email from VGCS@inceptia.org, or a postcard from Inceptia, containing Lamar State College Orange's unique website link to start the verification process.

Follow these steps to complete your verification if you were selected by DOE.

- **Access** our school's unique website link in the email from VGCS@inceptia.org or listed below.

- **Create** your account* and choose preferences for text messages and e-signatures.

- **Complete** your Task List.

- **Confirm** your signature and review your information.

- **Sign** your account.

  *If you are a dependent student, your parent also needs to create their own account and

  complete each of these steps.

Lamar State College – Orange Verification Gateway Links

- 2022-2023 Federal Verification: https://lsco.verificationgateway.org
- 2023-2024 Federal Verification: https://lsco.verificationgateway.org

Corrections

Questions about the verification process?

Contact Inceptia, Monday through Friday 8 am – 7 pm Central at 888.374.8427 or VGCS@inceptia.org.

About Inceptia

Inceptia, a division of National Student Loan Program (NSLP), is a nonprofit organization committed to offering effective and uncomplicated solutions in verification, financial aid management, financial education, and repayment wellness. Our mission supports schools as they illuminate paths towards educational and financial success for students and families.

Applications Selected by Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) for Verification

LSCO may select your application for verification to verify any information the school has reason to believe is incorrect on the FAFSA application.

If your FAFSA application is selected for verification by LSCO, not DOE, you will be notified of your status as follows:

1. You will receive an email from the school notifying you of the request for additional information.
2. Your requirements will be outlined in your Gator Self-Service Account with instructions informing you or your verification status.

Follow these steps to complete your verification if selected by the college.

- Login to your Gator Self-Service Account and follow these steps to see what additional documentation you need to submit.
  - Click on "Financial Aid"
  - Select "Eligibility"
  - Choose the applicable "Award Year"
  - Click on "Student Requirements"
  - Review the forms or items listed as "Unsatisfied"
- Carefully read the instructions on the verification forms listed and submit them to the Office of Financial Aid along with any additional items requested.
  - Verification documents must be physically signed.
  - You may submit the verification forms and other documentation through the [Secure Financial Aid Document Portal](#) or in person to the Financial Aid Office.

Selection After Disbursement

If you are selected for verification after aid has already been awarded or disbursed, you must complete verification before any additional disbursements are made. If you are receiving grants, your grants may be cancelled until verification has been completed and eligibility for the grants can be determined based on your verified EFC.

If the results of the completed verification do not justify aid already disbursed, you are responsible for repaying all aid for which you are no longer eligible, though you may keep any Direct Loan money received and FWS wages earned.

If you are selected for verification after ceasing to be enrolled for the award year (with no plans to re-enroll), you may be excused from completing verification.

Updating FAFSA Information

Generally, you cannot update FAFSA information that was correct as of the date the application was signed because the FAFSA is a "snapshot" of your family's financial situation as of that date. For example, if your family sold some stock after signing the FAFSA and spent the proceeds on an automobile or home improvement, you cannot update the FAFSA to reflect a change in assets. After the FAFSA is signed, only certain items can be updated under the conditions listed below.

1. Dependency Status Change: If your dependency status changes at any time during the award year, you must update FAFSA information, except when the update is due to a change in your marital status.
2. Verification of Household Size or Number in College: If selected for verification of household size or number in college, you must update those items to be correct as of the date of verification, except when the update is due to a change in your marital status.
3. Marital Status Change: LSCO may require you to update FAFSA information under items (1) or (2) of this section, for a change in the marital status if the LSCO determines that the update is necessary to address an inequity or to reflect more accurately your ability to pay.

You should contact our office at finaid@lsco.edu before making any updates to your FAFSA. An update to the FAFSA form may trigger DOE or Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) to select your application for verification.

Correcting Errors

Although you cannot update FAFSA information that was filed correctly, except under limited conditions as listed-above, errors made on the original FAFSA must be corrected.

Once you submit the FAFSA, you will receive an electronic summary of your processed FAFSA known as the Student Aid Report (SAR). Upon receipt of the SAR, you should review all information listed on the SAR and correct any errors reported on the original FAFSA. You may make corrections to your FAFSA using FAFSA on the web or using the SAR. You should speak with our office before making corrections to your FAFA. A correction to the FAFSA form may trigger DOE or Lamar State College Orange (LSCO) to select an unselected application for verification.

Corrections made by LSCO/Inceptia

If discrepancies are found between the documents submitted for verification and the information on the FAFSA form, the following procedures will be followed:

- Corrections will be submitted to the Central Processing System (CPS) for processing to correct the FAFSA information determined to be in error;
- LSCO will recalculate the Federal Pell Grant on the basis of the recalculated EFC;
- LSCO will adjust your financial aid package on the basis of the recalculated EFC; and
- LSCO will notify you via email and your Gator Self-Service account of any change to your financial aid package.

Policy Regarding Referrals of Suspected Fraud or Criminal Misconduct

In the event that an applicant is suspected of participating in fraud or other criminal misconduct in connection with application for Title IV, HEA program assistance, the information will be referred to the appropriate college, state and/or federal authorities. These authorities may include, but are not limited to, college discipline officer, college police, Orange Police, and the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Education