

Southwestern Michigan College

How to Provide 2023 Parent Tax Information for the 2025-26 FAFSA and for Verification Purposes

Important Note: The instructions below apply to each parent included in the household. Notify the financial aid office if the parents filed separate IRS income tax returns for 2023 or had a change in marital status after December 31, 2023.

Instructions: Complete this section if the parents filed or will file a 2023 IRS income tax return(s). As part of federal student aid eligibility, parents will be required to consent and approve sharing and importing income and tax information from the IRS to the FAFSA form, even if the attempt to obtain or use such data is ineffective. In other words, if the parents filed separate 2023 IRS income tax returns, both must provide consent and approval to share and import income and tax information from the IRS. In most cases, no further documentation is needed to verify 2023 income information that was transferred into the student's FAFSA using income and tax information directly from the IRS.

If 2023 income tax return information for the parents was not available or could not be used, the parents should provide the institution with a **2023 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) or a signed copy of the 2023 income tax return(s) and applicable schedules.**

A **2023 IRS Tax Return Transcript** may be obtained through:

- Get Transcript by Mail – Go to www.irs.gov, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript by Mail." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "Account Transcript." The transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the online request.
- Get Transcript Online – Go to www.irs.gov, click "Get Your Tax Record." Click "Get Transcript Online." Make sure to request the "Return Transcript" and **NOT** the "Account Transcript." To use the Get Transcript Online tool, the user must have (1) access to a valid email address, (2) a text-enabled mobile phone (pay-as-you-go plans cannot be used) in the user's name, and (3) specific financial account numbers (such as a credit card number or an account number for a home mortgage or auto loan). The transcript displays online upon successful completion of the IRS's two-step authentication.
- Automated Telephone Request – 1-800-908-9946. Transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the telephone request.
- Paper Request Form – IRS Form 4506T-EZ or IRS Form 4506-T. The transcript is generally received within 10 business days from the IRS's receipt of the paper request form.

2023 tax returns and tax return transcripts can be mailed to SMC's financial aid office at:

Southwestern Michigan College Financial
Aid 58900 Cherry Grove Rd.
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Please be sure to include the student's name and SMC ID number on each document. Returns and transcripts can also be emailed to finaid@swmich.edu, or faxed to 269-783-2114. *Please note that submission of forms electronically should be encrypted to protect any personal or confidential information.* Parents should submit required documentation to the financial aid office within two weeks of this request, or as soon as the documents are received from the IRS, to avoid delays in processing. Financial aid eligibility cannot be determined until all required information has been received and reviewed.

Call the financial aid office at 269-783-2143 if you have any questions about this process.