

# 8 STRATEGIES TO COMBAT VERIFICATION CHALLENGES

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Verification is when a student is selected for a random federal or institutional audit. There are different processes at each college for verification that can create barriers for students seeking financial aid. Explore the 8 strategies below to help combat verification challenges.

- 1** Track students who've completed a FAFSA
- 2** Offer to assist with ordering tax transcripts, if applicable, during financial aid workshops
- 3** Be sure students and family members know how to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)
- 4** Require students to bring their Student Aid Report (SAR) for review during advising sessions
- 5** Track students selected for verification and what documents have been sent for those students
- 6** Keep a record of how colleges notify students regarding verification
- 7** Review students' verification materials before they submit
- 8** Verify receipt of award letters – ask the college about missing documents if an award letter fails to arrive