Clarification of Citizenship Status for Federal Student Aid

Student Name: ____________________________ Student ID: ____________________________ Date ________________

The U.S. Department of Education was unable to verify your U.S. Citizenship status at the time your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) was processed. To receive federal financial aid, you must meet and provide documentation that you meet one of the following categories labeled as “ELIGIBLE”. You must present original documentation, or MAIL a copy of your documentation accompanied by the ORIGINAL completed and signed SUNY Potsdam Affidavit Form.

Please indicate which of the following categories applies to you and present documentation as indicated.

Eligible Citizens:

Eligible U.S. Citizen (If born in the U.S., your birth certificate. If not born in U.S., please refer to acceptable documentation as listed below).

Acceptable documentation for eligible citizens born in the U.S.:

- Birth Certificate showing birth in U.S., which includes Puerto Rico (on or after January 13, 1941), Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (on or after January 17, 1917).
- U.S. Passport (current or expired).
- A wallet sized passport card used exclusively for land and sea travel between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda.
- A Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561) issued by USCIS to individuals who derive U.S. Citizenship through a parent.
- A Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-561) issued by USCIS through a federal or state court, or through administrative naturalization after December 1990 to those who are individually naturalized.
- Form FS-240 (Consular Report of Birth Abroad) – Department of State document.
- Form FS-545 (Certificate of Birth Issued by a foreign-service post) – Department of State document.

Eligible Non-Citizen Nationals:

Natives of American Samoa, Swain’s Island, or Minor Outlying Islands.

- U.S. Passport. This must be stamped “Noncitizen National” (Note that a passport issued by another country may be used to document permanent resident status if it has the endorsement “Processed for I-551” and has a currently valid expiration date.

Eligible Non-Citizens:

An individual with at least 50% Native American blood AND born in Canada (eligible under the Jay Treaty of 1794). **Must provide documentation for both.**

Acceptable Documentation for 50% Native American Blood:

- “Band Card”, issued by the Band Council of a Canadian Reserve, or by the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa, OR
- Affidavit from a Tribal Official, OR
- Identification from a Recognized Native American Provincial or Territorial Organization.

Acceptable Documentation of Birth in Canada:

- Birth or Baptismal Record
U.S. permanent resident

- “Permanent Resident Card” (I-551) (I-94 or I-94A Arrival-Departure Record). For permanent resident status, must be stamped “Processed for I-551” with expiration date. (We must be able to view the front and back of your card).
- Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-151) Issued prior to June 1978 to permanent residents. No longer issued but valid indefinitely. Often referred to as a “green card” though it is not always green.
- Resident Alien Card (I-551) Issued to permanent residents. The I-551 is a revised version of the I-151. Often referred to as a “green card” though it is not always green. (We must be able to view the front and back of your card).

A conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C)

- “Conditional Resident Alien Card”. It is issued to conditional permanent residents such as alien spouses. This card (I-551C) is identified by a “C” on the front and has an expiration date on the back.

The holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations:

- “Refugee”/Conditional Entrants
- “Asylum Granted”
- “Parolee” (I-94 Confirms that you were paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired)
- Cuban-Haitian Entrant

- “I-94 or I94A Arrival-Departure Record “For Other Eligible Non-Citizens must be stamped as Refugee, Asylum Status, Conditional Entrant (before April 1, 1980), Parolee, or Cuban-Haitian Entrant.
- Form CBP I-94A. The computer-generated Form CBP I-94A replaces—in many instances, but not all—the Form I-94 that was completed manually. For eligible noncitizens, it must show: Class of Admission, Officer Badge Number, & the Date Admitted to the U.S.
- United States Travel Document. This document has a mint green cover. This replaces the Reentry Permit (Form I-327) and the Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571). It is used by lawful permanent residents, refugees, and asylees and must be annotated: “Permit to Reenter Form I-327”.
- Machine Readable Immigrant Visa. The MRIV will appear in the holder’s (foreign) passport. If the passport is unexpired and endorsed with an admission stamp and the statement “Upon endorsement serves as temporary I-551 evidencing permanent residence for 1 year,” it serves as a temporary I-551 and as valid documentation for establishing aid eligibility.

- “Victim of human trafficking”
- Spouse, Child or Parent of a victim of human trafficking

- Certification or Eligibility Letter provided to victims of human trafficking by the HHS and must be reviewed to further determine federal aid eligibility.
- T-Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc). The spouse, child, or parent of a victim of human trafficking might be eligible for federal aid. They will not have a certification letter but will have a T-Visa which must be reviewed to further determine federal aid eligibility.

- Person under the Violence against Women Act

- 1-797 (Notice of Action Form) Notice of Action Form is issued when a self-petitioning spouse is approved by USCIS under the Violence Against Women Act.
- Suspension of Deportation by Court Order indicating the spouse’s deportation has been suspended from an immigration judge.
- Cancellation of Removal by Court Order indicating the spouse’s deportation has been canceled from an Immigration judge.

Non-Eligible Student (Note: These students are not eligible for FSA funds):

- A student who is in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to the international organizations).
- An individual granted relief from deportation under the Family Unity Program.
- An individual who is allowed to live and work in the US under the Legalization or Special Agricultural Worker Program.
- A student who does not fall under any of the categories listed in the “Eligible Citizen”, Non-Citizen National”, or “Eligible Non-Citizen” categories.
- A student who is a nonimmigrant alien.
- A student with a status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).
- Students with a “Withholding of Removal” Order
- A U-Visa holder.

Student’s Signature

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