The US Department of Education and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) collaborated to develop a solution that simplifies FAFSA completion. The IRS Data Retrieval tool will give applicants who apply thru FAFSA on the Web the ability to request and retrieve their income and tax data from the IRS directly into their FAFSA. If you are eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, we highly recommend using the tool as it is an easy way to provide tax data and ensures the FAFSA has accurate tax information.

Select this link for a brief tutorial on the FAFSA-IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Who can use IRS Data Retrieval?

- Filing Status is Married Filing Jointly
- Filing Status is Single

Who is not eligible to use IRS Data Retrieval?

- Filing Status is Married Filing Separately
- Filing Status is Head of Household - Single
-Filed an Amended Tax Return
-Filed a Puerto Rican or Foreign Tax Return
-Recently Filed Taxes
-Marital Status has Changed Since January 1

**Advantages of using the IRS Data Retrieval process:**

- Automatically provides institution with verification documentation
- No tax return transcript needed
- Improve the accuracy of aid awards
- Reduces burden of proof on students and institution
- Applicants can complete their FAFSA more easily and accurately
- Allows us to redirect our administrative focus to better serve your needs and enhance your application experience

**Important changes to the 2013-2014 FAFSA process**

- All applicants and parents who indicate they have filed a federal income tax return will be directed to use the IRS data retrieval tool.
- Applicants and parents who indicate they will file a federal tax return will receive email communication(s) directing them to use the IRS data retrieval tool to update their income information once they have filed their 2012 federal income tax return.
- Applicants who have already filed but elect not to use the IRS data retrieval tool will have a higher probability of being selected for verification based upon the risk they pose to federal funds.
- Applicants selected for verification who do not use the IRS Data retrieval tool will be required to request a tax transcript from the IRS and submit it to the financial aid office.
- Applicants who choose not to use the FAFSA-IRS Data Retrieval Tool (OR) applicants who use the tool but subsequently change the income information will be informed they must explain to their institutions why information they provided is more accurate than the information available through the IRS.

**WHEN WILL DATA BE AVAILABLE FROM THE IRS?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Electronic Tax Filers</th>
<th>Data will be available within 2 weeks of filing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper Tax Filers</td>
<td>Data will be available within 6 – 8 weeks of filing</td>
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</table>

Should you have any questions, contact the Vernon College Financial Aid Office at (940) 552-6291 or (940) 696-8752.