

U.S. Citizenship Documentation

Your FAFSA indicates that your citizenship status has not been confirmed. A student needs to be one of the following in order to receive federal student aid:

- A U.S. Citizen or national,
- A citizen of the Freely Associated States: The Federated State of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau and the Marshall Islands,
- A U.S. permanent resident or other eligible noncitizen.

Documentation for U.S. Citizenship

- A Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570) issued by USCIS (or, prior to 1991, a federal or state court), or through administrative naturalization after December 1990 to those who are individually naturalized.
- A Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561) issued by USCIS to individuals who derive U.S. citizenship through a parent.
- A copy of the student's U.S. birth certificate showing that the student was born in the U.S., which includes Puerto Rico (on or after January 13, 1941), Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Swains Island, or the Northern Mariana Islands, unless the person was born to foreign diplomats residing in the U.S. If a student has a birth certificate from a U.S. jurisdiction showing that the student as born abroad (i.e. not in the U.S. or its territories) that birth certificate is not acceptable documentation. Acceptable U.S. citizenship documentation for students born abroad are the following:
 - Form FS-240- Consular Report of Birth Abroad
 - Form DS-1350- Certification of Report of Birth
 - Certificate of Citizenship issued by USCIS
- A U.S. passport, current or expired, (except "limited" passports, which are typically issued for short periods such as a year and which don't receive as much scrutiny as a regular passport when applying). In the case of nationals who are not U.S. citizens, the passport will be stamped "Noncitizen National." Five-year-duration U.S. passports (commonly issued to younger students) are considered acceptable documentation and are not considered "limited." Passport cards are also acceptable; however, one-year-duration U.S. passports are NOT acceptable documentation.
- A wallet-sized passport card, issued by the State Department, is a fully valid attestation of the U.S. citizenship and identity of the bearer, but can only be used for land and sea travel between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda.
- A copy of Form FS-240 (Consular Report of Birth Abroad), FS-545 (Certificate of birth issued by a foreign service post), or DS-1350 (Certificate of Report of Birth).

Documentation for U.S. Permanent Resident or other Eligible Noncitizen.

- Lawful Permanent Residents
 - Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551 since 1997).
 - Resident Alien Card (Form I-551 since 1997).

- Conditional Resident Aliens
 - I-551, I-94, I-94A or a passport bearing the statement, “Upon endorsement serves as temporary I-551 evidencing permanent residence for 1 year”

- Conditional Entrants
 - I-94 with a stamp displaying “Section 203(a)(07) and indicating that the person was admitted to the U.S. as a conditional entrant.

- Refugee
 - Form I-94A or I-94A with a stamp showing admission under Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Refugee Travel Document (Form I-571) or the newer U.S. Travel Document annotated with “Refugee Travel Document Form I-571 (Rev. 9-2-03).”

- Persons Paroled into the U.S. for at Least One Year
 - Must provide documentation of your parole status (I-94) and it must have a stamp indicating student has been paroled into the U.S. for at least one year with a date that has not expired.
 - Must also provide evidence (such as having filed an Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (I-485) or being named alien relative from a petitioner (I-130) from the DHS that they are in the U.S. for other than a temporary purpose and intend to become a citizen or permanent resident.

- Cuban-Haitian Entrant
 - Form I-94 with stamp including “Cuban-Haitian Entrant (Status Pending).

- Victims of Human Trafficking
 - Victim must submit certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).