Why were you selected for Verification?
The federal government selects Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the verification process. Colleges and universities are then required to verify that the data reported by students and their parent(s) is correct. In some instances, our review may result in a change to the student's financial aid eligibility. Your signature on the FAFSA indicates your willingness to provide documentation if it is requested. Participation in the Verification process is not optional if you wish to receive federal student aid, including federal student and parent loans.

What programs are affected?
Federal Pell Grant  Federal Work Study
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant  Federal Direct Stafford Loans
Federal TEACH Grant

In order to be considered for the Federal Pell Grant, the deadline to submit all requested information is 120 days after the student's last date of attendance during the 2018-2019 academic year (or the 2018-2019 federal deadline, whichever comes first). To be considered for all other federal aid programs, including Federal Direct Student Loans and the Federal PLUS Loan for parents, the deadline is 30 days prior to the last day of the semester the student last attends during the 2018-2019 academic year. Students and their families are strongly encouraged to submit all requested information to the One Stop for Student Services as quickly as possible.

How do I complete the required Verification Process?
• Complete the 2018-2019 Verification Worksheet available at www.kent.edu/financialaid/info-we-need. Do not leave the answer to any question blank.

• If you did not originally use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool when you filed the FAFSA, you may submit a correction and use the tool instead of submitting an IRS Tax Return Transcript. Log on to your FAFSA at https://fafsa.gov. We strongly encourage you to use this option. Some tax filers may not be able to use the Tool. If that applies to you, you must submit an IRS Tax Return Transcript. A Federal IRS Tax Return Transcript can be obtained online or by mail, free of charge, by visiting www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-908-9946. Be sure to request a “Return Transcript” and not an “Account Transcript.” Federal financial aid policies do not allow us to accept copy of your federal 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ tax return. We also cannot accept copies of state tax returns.

An IRS Non-filing letter can be obtained online or by mail, free of charge, by visiting www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-908-9946.

If you filed an amended tax return for 2016, you must provide a copy of your tax transcript (which will include only information from the original tax return) and a signed copy of the 2016 IRS form 1040X that was filed with the IRS.

If you or your parent/stepparent has a 2016 tax extension beyond the automatic six-month extension, you may submit IRS form 4868 for tax year 2016, a copy of the IRS’s approval of an extension beyond six months and a copy of all 2016 W2’s. Additionally, you must submit an IRS Non-Filing Letter dated after October 1, 2017.
If you were a victim of IRS tax-related identity theft, you may provide a Tax Return DataBase View (TRDBV) Transcript, obtained from the IRS and a statement signed and dated by the tax filer indicating that he or she was a victim of IRS tax-related identity theft and that the IRS is aware of the tax-related identity theft.

If you filed a foreign 2016 tax return or a tax return with Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, please contact the One Stop for Student Services for further instructions.

• Submit any other required documentation as indicated on your Verification Worksheet or your FlashLine account.

What happens after Verification is complete?

1. A financial aid professional will compare information on this worksheet and any required supporting documents with the information submitted on the 2018-2019 FAFSA. Please allow up to 7-10 business days for this review.
2. If additional documentation is requested after reviewing the worksheets and supporting documents, we will request the additional information on the student's FlashLine account under Financial Aid Messages. A notification will be sent to your Kent State email account. It is the responsibility of the student to check their FlashLine account on a regular basis.
3. Kent State University will electronically submit any corrections necessary to the 2018-2019 FAFSA.
4. The federal Department of Education will reprocess the FAFSA if corrections are necessary. The student will receive an updated electronic Student Aid Report.
5. If the student's financial aid eligibility changes for 2018-2019 as a result of corrections, the financial aid awards will be updated and the student will be notified by an email to their Kent State email account.

Please contact the One Stop for Student Services if you have any questions or concerns.