

Four Ways to Obtain Your 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript

2020-2021 FAFSA Award Year

Tax filers may obtain a transcript, free of charge, of their Federal Income Tax Return from the IRS in one of four ways.

Online Immediate Access to Your Electronic Transcript

- Available on the IRS Web site at <https://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript>
- Click on “Get Transcript Online,” and from the next page click on “Create an Account”
- Complete the steps set up an account
- Select “Higher Education/Student Aid” as your reason for requesting the Tax Return Transcript
- Select the 2018 Return Transcript
- When the IRS Tax Return Transcript displays you may use your browser’s tools to print a copy or to save the file. Remember to change the file type to PDF when saving.
- Mail, fax, or scan and email the IRS Tax Return Transcript to the IWU financial aid office, making sure to include the student’s name and student ID

Online Request for Mailed Transcript

- Available on the IRS Web site at <https://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript>
- Click on “Get Transcript by Mail”
- Enter the tax filer’s Social Security Number, date of birth, street address, and zip or postal code. Use the address currently on file with the IRS. Generally, this will be the address that was listed on the latest tax return filed. However, if an address change has been completed through the US Postal Service, the IRS may have the updated address on file.
- Click “Continue”
- In the Type of Transcript field, select “Return Transcript” and in the Tax Year field, select “2018”
- If successfully validated, tax filers can expect to receive a paper IRS Tax Return Transcript at the address included in their online request, within 5 to 10 days from the time the on-line request was successfully transmitted to the IRS
- IRS Tax Return Transcripts requested online cannot be sent directly to a third party by the IRS. Mail, fax, or scan and email the IRS Tax Return Transcript to the IWU financial aid office, making sure to include the student’s name and student ID.

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Tips for Address Entry

- The address entered must match exactly the address already on file with the IRS—typically the address on your most recent tax return
- Spelling out the word “Street” rather than using the abbreviation “St” may be enough to cause an error
- Addresses on the IRS system are auto-corrected through a post office program and may not match what you put on your tax return
- If you enter your address as it appears on your last tax return and it doesn’t work, try using the standardized version of your address. To get the standardized version of your address, log onto https://tools.usps.com/go/ZipLookupAction_input; enter the street address, city, and state; and click “Find.”
- Contact the IRS.gov Website Help Desk at 800-876-1715, Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 8:00pm Eastern Time, for additional assistance

Telephone Request for Mailed Transcript

- Available from the IRS by calling 1-800-908-9946
- Tax filers must follow prompts to enter their social security number and the numbers in their street address. Generally, this will be numbers of the street address that was listed on the latest tax return filed. However, if an address change has been completed through the US Postal Service, the IRS may have the updated address on file.
- Select “Option 2” to request an IRS Tax Return Transcript and then enter “2018”
- If successfully validated, tax filers can expect to receive a paper IRS Tax Return Transcript at the address that was used in their telephone request, within 5 to 10 days from the time the IRS receives the request
- IRS Tax Return Transcripts requested by telephone cannot be sent directly to a third party by the IRS. Mail, fax, or scan and email the IRS Tax Return Transcript to the IWU financial aid office, making sure to include the student’s name and student ID.

Paper Request for Mailed Transcript—IRS Form 4506T-EZ

- IRS Form 4506T-EZ should be used instead of IRS Form 4506-T because it is sufficient to request an IRS Tax Return Transcript
- Download at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f4506tez.pdf>
- Complete lines 1 – 4, following the instructions on page 2 of the form. Note that line 3 should be the most current address as filed with the IRS. It is the address where the IRS Tax Return Transcript will be sent. If the address has recently changed, include the address listed on the latest tax return filed on Line 4. However, if an address change has been completed through the US Postal Service, the IRS may have the updated address on file.

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- On line 6, enter “2018”
- The tax filers (or spouse if requesting information from a joint tax return) must sign and date the form and enter their telephone number. Only one signature is required to request a transcript for a joint return.
- Mail or fax the completed IRS Form 4506T-EZ to the appropriate address (or FAX number) provided on page 2 of Form 4506T-EZ
- Tax filers can expect to receive their transcript within 5 to 10 days from the time the IRS receives and processes their signed request

NOTE: Processing form 4506T-EZ means verifying/validating the information provided on the form. If any information does not match the IRS records, the IRS will notify the tax filer that it was not able to provide the transcript.

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