

UPDATE! March 30, 2017

To protect sensitive taxpayer data, the IRS and FSA announced today the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) on fafsa.gov will be unavailable until extra security protections can be added. Students and families should plan for the tool to be offline until the start of the next FAFSA season (October 2017).

As a reminder, students can still complete a FAFSA without the IRS DRT; household financial information can be submitted manually from the 2015 tax return (not 2016). The NCMC Financial Aid Office is available to assist students who are confused or have difficulty completing the FAFSA. Families are encouraged to request a copy of their 2015 IRS Tax Return Transcript (TRT) upon completing the FAFSA, which can be requested at www.irs.gov or the taxpayer can call 1-800-908-9946, and a transcript will be delivered to the address on record within five to 10 days. With the DRT outage, the TRT will be required should the student's FAFSA be selected for verification by ED.

For more information on or for help with completing the FAFSA, visit StudentAid.gov/fafsa or call 1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

For information from the IRS, visit [*IRS Offers Help to Students, Families to Get Tax Information for Student Financial Aid Applications.*](#)

March 10, 2017

The Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Data Retrieval Tool (DRT), which allows students and parents applying for financial aid to import tax information directly into their FAFSA has been nonfunctional for approximately a week. The IRS and the Department of Education (ED) said in a joint statement released March 9, 2017 that they are working to resolve the situation, but that the tool will be down for several weeks.

With the April 1st state deadline approaching, it is important to understand students can still complete a FAFSA without the IRS DRT; household financial information can be submitted manually. The NCMC Financial Aid Office is available to assist students who are confused or have difficulty completing the FAFSA. Families are encouraged to request a copy of their 2015 IRS Tax Return Transcript (TRT) upon completing the FAFSA, which can be requested at www.irs.gov. With the DRT outage, the TRT will be required should the student's FAFSA be selected for verification by ED.

Updated information will be provided to students and parents through the [NCMC homepage](#) as it's made available.