

Hello! Below is information related to our discussions during the FAFSA Simplification session.

Q: Which poverty line table is being used?

A: The poverty line table that will be used for determining minimum and maximum Pell Grants is the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines which is updated each January by the Department of Health and Human Services. The table being used will be the one that is applicable to the second tax year preceding the academic year.

Q: Any idea how much more robust IRS DRT will be? What else will it pull in?

**Here is information from NASFAA about the information coming from the IRS as a result of the Future Act.**

*Specifically, the FUTURE Act improves the FAFSA filing process by addressing the existing shortcomings of the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT).*

*There are currently categories of FAFSA filers — including married couples filing separately, those who filed as head of household, and those who did not file taxes — who cannot use the DRT.*

*The FUTURE Act allows students currently unable to use the DRT, including both non-tax-filers and tax filers of all filing statuses, to experience a simpler FAFSA process by transferring their data directly from the IRS to ED.*

*While it will likely take longer to implement the direct data sharing for some categories of tax filers because of logistical and technological challenges, non-tax-filers will be among the first to benefit. This will be particularly helpful, since non-tax-filers currently selected for verification must go through an arduous process of requesting separate documentation from the IRS to confirm to their school that they did not file taxes.*

I was not able to find anything about wages coming over from the W2. I thought I had seen that, and maybe I did, but I can't find it at the moment.

Q: Couldn't a qualifying relative be a qualifying child if the student's parents provide more than half of their support

A: Assuming the whole point is to align the FAFSA household definition with the IRS and the rules will be the same, I think the answer is yes. Here are two sources that lead me to believe it is possible. The key is that the parents would have to be providing more than half of the student's support (and the H&R Block sources says the student would need to earn less than \$4,300).

- <https://www.hrblock.com/tax-center/filing/dependents/adult-dependent-requirements/>
- <https://finance.zacks.com/can-claim-adult-child-deduction-1085.html>

Take care - Mila