

Government IDs and Other Qualifying Documents

Some applications may be processed immediately (generally if using a Social Security number), but others may require additional documentation. USAC may also contact the applicant if they need additional information to confirm eligibility once an application is submitted. The following provides examples, as well as some helpful tips, as to what these documents need to include.

If sending documentation via mail, always send copies or pictures of original documentation; never send the original documentation.

Step 1 | IDENTIFICATION

Identify Verification

Use the last four digits of your Social Security number (fastest and easiest way to apply) OR provide one of the following:

Documentation must include:

- Your first and last name
- Your date of birth
- Documentation must be up to date

Document Examples

- Valid government, military, state or Tribal ID
- Birth certificate
- U.S. driver's license or foreign driver's license
- U.S. passport or foreign passport
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship or Naturalization
- Permanent Resident Card or Green Card
- Government assistance program document
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)
- Student ID card (ID needs to include the student's full name, birth date, name of school, school address, logo, and contact information)

Note: If choosing to qualify through a child or dependent, the last four digits of the Social Security number or identity documentation will be needed for the child or dependent *and* the applicant.

Step 2 | ELIGIBILITY (if applicable)

Option 1: Qualify Through Household Income

If you qualify through your income, you may need to provide documentation that shows your annual income is at or below 200% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#).

Documentation must include:

- Your (and/or your dependent's) first and last name
- Your annual income

Document Examples

- Prior year's state, federal, or Tribal tax return (e.g. a 1040)
- Current income statement from your employer or a paycheck stub (Note: you will need this for three consecutive months)
- A Social Security statement of benefits
- Veterans Administration statement of benefits
- Unemployment or Worker's Compensation statement of benefits
- Divorce decree, child support award, or a similar official document showing your income
- A retirement/pension statement of benefits

Option 2: Qualify Through Program Participation

If you (or your child or dependent) participates in a qualifying assistance program(s), you may need to provide documentation as proof.

Documentation must include:

- Your (or your dependent's) first and last name
- The name of the qualifying program, such as SNAP
- The name of the government, Tribal entity, program administrator, school, school district, university, or college that issued the document (CEP and FRPM program letters also require school district logo and contact information)
- An issue date within the last 12 months or future expiration date

Notes: CEP documentation requires an issue date for the current academic year, Pell Grant requires an issue date for the current award year, and Free and Reduced Price School Lunch requires an issue date for the current or previous academic year.

Document Examples

- Rental lease
- Benefit award or Approval letter
- [Proof of enrollment in a CEP School](#)
- [Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Letter](#)
- Statement of benefits
- Screenshot of StudentAid.gov dashboard

If you are prompted to provide **proof of life documentation**, please review [USAC's Accepted Documentation Guide](#) for more information. Please note that applicants must be 18 or older to apply for the ACP on their own; however, **emancipated minors** are eligible if they provide additional documentation to prove their status. Please refer to the above link for more information.

Step 3 | ADDRESS (if applicable)

Address Verification

Some applicants may be asked to provide documentation proving their address.

Documentation must include:

- Your first and last name
- Physical address

Document Examples and Tips

To prove your address online, you can use the mapping tool. To prove your address with the mail-in application, you can send a map that clearly shows your physical address or location, including latitude and longitude coordinates. Coordinates are required if you live on Tribal Lands.

Other Documentation options include:

- Driver's license or other valid government ID
- Utility bill
- Mortgage or lease statement
- Most recent W-2 or tax return

Note: If you live with another adult who receives the ACP, you must complete and submit the [ACP Household Worksheet](#). It will automatically appear online to complete or it must be printed and submitted with the paper application.