

# Legal Guardianship Verification Worksheet 2026-2027



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Please allow at least 2 weeks for processing after all required documents have been submitted. Documents submitted between July 1, 2026 and August 31, 2026 may take longer to process.

Carefully read the instructions and provide the information asked. Please note, we may ask for additional information after the documents are reviewed.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's WIN \_\_\_\_\_

You marked on your 2026-2027 FAFSA that you are or were in a legal guardianship (see definition on second page of form) with someone other than your parent or stepparent, as determined by a court in your state of residence.

Please mark each line below that applies to you.

\_\_\_ As of the date I submitted my 2026-27 FAFSA, I was in legal guardianship (not custodianship) as approved by a court in my state

of legal residence

\_\_\_ I was in legal guardianship (not custodianship) when I reached the age of being an adult in my state of legal residence

\_\_\_ A court decision never placed me into legal guardianship

**You must also provide documentation to certify this information.**

Documentation must confirm that you were in legal guardianship (not custodianship) as defined by Federal Student Aid. (see a list of documentation examples on second page of form)

## Certification and Signature

By signing this worksheet, you certify that all the information reported on it is complete and correct. **WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Signature cannot be typed)

### **Legal Guardianship Definition**

- Legal guardianship does not include the student's parent or stepparent, even if they were appointed by a court to be the student's guardian.
- The student is not considered a legal guardian of themselves.
- The court that issued the decision must be located in the student's current state of legal residence. The court decision must have been in effect on the date:
  - The student completed the FAFSA, or
  - The student reached the age of majority in their legal state of residence

### **Acceptable Documentation**

May include, but is not limited to:

- A court order that specifies guardianship, who was appointed as the guardian, and the date the guardianship became effective

### **Examples of situations that are NOT considered legal guardianship**

- The court decision ended while the student was still a minor
- The court awarded custody, not guardianship
- The guardianship arrangement was never made official through the courts