

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.

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)

Step 2 | ELIGIBILITY

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 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
- An issue date within the last 12 months or a future expiration date, or the current (CEP) or current or previous school year (FRMP)

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