

Appendix 3: Acceptable Forms of Verification

| Factor to be Verified | ACCEPTABLE SOURCES | | | Verification Tips | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| | Third Party ^a | | Documents Provided by Applicant | | |
| | Written ^b | Oral ^c | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birth Certificate Baptismal Certificate Military Discharge papers Valid passport Census document showing age Naturalization certificate Social Security Administration Benefits printout | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alimony or child support. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy of separation or divorce agreement provided by ex-spouse or court indicating type of support, amount, and payment schedule. Written statement provided by ex-spouse or income source indicating all of above. If applicable, written statement from court/attorney that payments are not being received and anticipated date of resumption of payments. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with ex-spouse or income source documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy of most recent check, recording date, amount, and check number. Recent original letters from the court. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or affidavit signed by applicant indicating amount received. If applicable, notarized statement or affidavit from applicant indicating that payments are not being received and describing efforts to collect amounts due. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amounts awarded but not received can be excluded from annual income only when applicants have made reasonable efforts to collect amounts due, including filing with courts or agencies responsible for enforcing payments. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assets disposed of for less than fair market value. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification signed by applicant that no member of family has disposed of assets for less than fair market value during preceding two years. If applicable, certification signed by the owner of the asset disposed of that shows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type of assets disposed of; Date disposed of; Amount received; and Market value of asset at the time of disposition. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only count assets disposed of within a two-year period prior to examination or re-examination. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auxiliary apparatus. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written verification from source of costs and purpose of apparatus. Written certification from doctor or rehabilitation agency that use of apparatus is necessary to employment of any family member. In case where the disabled person is employed, statement from employer that apparatus is necessary for employment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with these sources documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of receipts or evidence of periodic payments for apparatus. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The owner must determine if expense is to be considered medical or disability assistance. | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care attendant for disabled family members. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written verification from attendant stating amount received, frequency of payments, hours of care. Written certification from doctor or rehabilitation agency that care is necessary to employment of family member. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with source documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of receipts or cancelled checks indicating payment amount and frequency. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or signed affidavit attesting to amounts paid. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The owner must determine if this expense is to be considered medical or disability assistance. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child care expenses (including verification that a family member who has been relieved of child care is working, attending school, or looking for employment). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written verification from person who provides care indicating amount of payment, hours of care, names of children, frequency of payment, and whether or not care is necessary to employment or education. Verification of employment as required under Employment Income. Verification of student status (full or part-time) as required under Full-Time Student Status. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with these sources (child care provider, employer, school) documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of receipts or cancelled checks indicating payments. For school attendance, school records, such as paid fee statements that show that the time and duration of school attendance reasonably corresponds to the period of child care. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For verification of "looking for work," details of job search effort as required by owner's written policy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowance provided only for care of children 12 and younger. When same care provider takes care of children and disabled person, the owner must prorate expenses accordingly. Owners should keep in mind that costs may be higher in summer months and during holiday periods. The owner must determine which family member has been enabled to work. Care for employment and education must be prorated to compare to earnings. Costs must be "reasonable." |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizenship | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens must sign declaration certifying U.S. Citizenship. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owners may require applicants/residents to provide verification of citizenship. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current net family assets. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification forms, letters or documents received from financial institutions, stock brokers, real estate agents, employers indicating the current value of the assets and penalties or reasonable costs to be incurred in order to convert nonliquid assets into cash. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with appropriate source, documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passbooks, checking, or savings account statements, certificates of deposit, property appraisals, stock or bond documents, or other financial statements completed by financial institution. Copies of real estate tax statements, if tax authority uses approximate market value. Quotes from attorneys, stockbrokers, bankers, and real estate agents that verify penalties and reasonable costs incurred to convert asset to cash. Copies of real estate closing documents that indicate distribution of sales proceeds and settlement costs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or signed affidavit stating cash value of assets or verifying cash held at applicant's home or in safe deposit box. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use current balance in savings accounts and average monthly balance in checking accounts for last 6 months. Use cash value of all assets (the net amount the applicant would receive if the asset were converted to cash). NOTE: This information can usually be obtained simultaneously when verifying income from assets and employment (e.g., value of pension). |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability status. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification from medical professional stating that individual qualifies under the definition of disability. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with medical professional verifying qualification under the federal disability definition and documentation in the file of the conversation. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not appropriate. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a person receives Social Security Disability solely due to a drug or alcohol problem, the person is not considered disabled under housing law. A person that does not receive Social Security Disability may still qualify under the definition of a person with disabilities. Owners must not seek to verify information about a person's specific disability other than obtaining a professional's opinion of qualification under the definition of a person with disabilities. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dividend income and savings account interest income. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification form completed by bank. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with appropriate party, documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of current statements, bank passbooks, certificates of deposit, if they show required information (i.e., current rate of interest). Copies of Form 1099 from the financial institution, and verification of projected income for the next 12 months. Broker's quarterly statements showing value of stocks/bonds and earnings credited to the applicant. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not appropriate. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The owner must obtain enough information to accurately project income over next 12 months. Verify interest rate as well as asset value. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Income including tips, gratuities, overtime. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification form completed by employer. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone or in-person contact with employer, specifying amount to be paid per pay period and length of pay period. Document in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W-2 Forms, if applicant has had same employer for at least two years and increases can be accurately projected. • Paycheck stubs or earning statements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notarized statements or affidavits signed by applicant that describe amount and source of income. • Always verify: frequency of gross pay (i.e., hourly, biweekly, monthly, bimonthly); anticipated increases in pay and effective dates; overtime. • Require most recent 6-8 consecutive pay stubs; do not use check without stub. • For a fee, additional information can be obtained from The Work Number 800-996-7556; First American Registry 800-999-0350; and Verifax 800-969-5100. Fees are valid project expenses. Information does not replace third-party verification. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family composition. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth certificates • Divorce actions • Drivers' licenses • Employer records • Income tax returns • Marriage certificates • School records • Social Security Administration records • Social service agency records • Support payment records • Utility bills • Veterans Administration (VA) records | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An owner may seek verification only if the owner has clear written policy. | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family type. (Information verified only to determine eligibility for project, preferences, and allowances.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability Status: statement from physician or other reliable source, if benefits documenting status are not received. See paragraph 3.25 B.1 for restrictions on this form of verification. Displacement Status: Written statement or certificate of displacement by the appropriate governmental authority. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with source documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elderly Status (when there is reasonable doubt that applicant is at least 62): birth certificate, baptismal certificate, social security records, driver's license, census record, official record of birth or other authoritative document or receipt of SSI old age benefits or SS benefits. Disabled, blind: evidence of receipt of SSI or Disability benefits. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elderly Status: Applicant's signature on application is generally sufficient. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unless the applicant receives income or benefits for which elderly or disabled status is a requirement, such status must be verified. Status of disabled family members must be verified for entitlement to \$480 dependent deduction and disability assistance allowance. Owner may not ask the nature/extent of disability. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full-time student status (of family member 18 or older, excluding head, spouse, or foster children). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification from the Admissions or Registrar's Office or dean, counselor, advisor, etc., or from VA Office. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with these sources documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School records, such as paid fee statements that show a sufficient number of credits to be considered a full-time student by the educational institution attended. | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigration Status. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification of eligible immigration status must be received from DHS through the DHS SAVE system or through secondary verification using DHS Form G-845. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant/resident must provide appropriate immigration documents to initiate verification. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noncitizens must sign declaration certifying the following: Eligible immigration status; or Decision not to claim eligible status. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owners must require noncitizens requesting assistance to provide verification of eligible immigration status. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income maintenance payments, benefits, income other than wages (i.e., welfare, Social Security [SS], Supplemental Security Income [SSI], Disability Income, Pensions). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award or benefit notification letters prepared and signed by authorizing agency. TRACS or REAC may provide verification for social security. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with income source, documented in file by the owner. NOTE: For all oral verification, file documentation must include facts, time and date of contact, and name and title of third party. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current or recent check stubs with date, amount, and check number recorded by the owner. Award letters or computer printout from court or public agency. Copies of validated bank deposit slips, with identification by bank. Most recent quarterly pension account statement. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checks or automatic bank deposit slips may not provide gross amounts of benefits if applicant has deductions made for Medicare Insurance. Pay stubs for the most recent four to six weeks should be obtained. Copying of U.S. Treasury checks is not permitted. Award letters/printouts from court or public agency may be out of date; telephone verification of letter/printout is recommended. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest from sale of real property (e.g., contract for deed, installment sales contract, etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification form completed by an accountant, attorney, real estate broker, the buyer, or a financial institution which has copies of the amortization schedule from which interest income for the next 12 months can be obtained. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with appropriate party, documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copy of the contract. Copy of the amortization schedule, with sufficient information for the owner to determine the amount of interest to be earned during the next 12 months. NOTE: Copy of a check paid by the buyer to the applicant is not acceptable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the interest income is counted; the balance of the payment applied to the principal is merely a liquidation of the asset. The owner must get enough information to compute the actual interest income for the next 12 months. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical expenses. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification by a doctor, hospital or clinic, dentist, pharmacist, etc., of estimated medical costs to be incurred or regular payments expected to be made on outstanding bills which are not covered by insurance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with these sources, documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of cancelled checks that verify payments on outstanding medical bills that will continue for all or part of the next 12 months. Copies of income tax forms (Schedule A, IRS Form 1040) that itemize medical expenses, when the expenses are not expected to change over the next 12 months. Receipts, cancelled checks, pay stubs, which indicate health insurance premium costs, or payments to a resident attendant. Receipts or ticket stubs that verify transportation expenses directly related to medical expenses. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or signed affidavit of transportation expenses directly related to medical treatment, if there is no other source of verification. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical expenses are not allowable as deduction unless applicant is an elderly or disabled family. Status must be verified. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for an assistive animal. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from medical provider. | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the owner's policy is to verify this need, owner must implement policy consistently. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net Income for a business. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1040 with Schedule C, E, or F. Financial Statement(s) of the business (audited or unaudited) including an accountant's calculation of straight-line depreciation expense if accelerated depreciation was used on the tax return or financial statement. Any loan application listing income derived from business during the preceding 12 months. For rental property, copies of recent rent checks, lease and receipts for expenses, or IRS Schedule E. | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recurring contributions and gifts. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or affidavit signed by the person providing the assistance giving the purpose, dates, and value of gifts. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with source documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or affidavit signed by applicant stating purpose, dates, and value of gifts. Sporadic contributions and gifts are not counted as income. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-employment, tips, gratuities, etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None available. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None available. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form 1040/1040A showing amount earned and employment period. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notarized statement or affidavit signed by applicant showing amount earned and pay period. | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social security number. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original Social Security card Driver's license with SSN Identification card issued by a federal, State, or local agency, a medical insurance provider, or an employer or trade union. Earnings statements on payroll stubs Bank statement Form 1099 Benefit award letter Retirement benefit letter Life insurance policy Court records | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification that document is complete/accurate unless original Social Security card is provided. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals who have applied for legalization under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 will be able to disclose their social security numbers but unable to supply cards for documentation. Social security numbers are assigned to these persons when they apply for amnesty. The cards go to DHS until the persons are granted temporary lawful resident status. Until that time, their acceptable documentation is a letter from the DHS indicating that social security numbers have been assigned. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unborn children. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant/tenant self-certifies to pregnancy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner may not verify further than self-certification. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment compensation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification form completed by source. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with agency documented in a file by an owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of checks or records from agency provided by applicant stating payment amounts and dates. Benefit notification letter signed by authorizing agency. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of payments and expected length of benefit term must be verified. Income not expected to last full 12 months must be calculated based on 12 months and interim recertification completed when benefits stop. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welfare payments (as-paid states only). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verification form completed by welfare department indicating maximum amount family may receive. Maximum shelter schedule by household size with ratable reduction schedule. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone or in-person contact with income source, documented in file by the owner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum shelter allowance schedule with ratable reduction schedule provided by applicant. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not appropriate. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actual welfare benefit amount not sufficient as proof of income in "as-paid" states or localities since income is defined as maximum shelter amount. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Income. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant/Tenant self-certifies to zero income. • Owners may require applicant/tenant to sign verification release of information forms for state, local, and federal benefits programs, as well as the HUD 9887 and HUD 9887-A. • Owners may require the tenant to reverify zero income status at least every 90 days. |