Important Changes to the 2012-13 FAFSA Process

All students applying for financial aid for the 2012-13 school year should be informed of the following changes involving FAFSA and the Verification process:

**IRS Data Retrieval** - When filling out the FAFSA, the Alamo Colleges strongly recommends all students, parents, and spouses (if applicable) to upload the 2011 income tax information to their FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval tool. In order to do so, all parties must have already filed 2011 taxes, at least two weeks prior to filling out the FAFSA. The IRS Data Retrieval tool will be available February 1, 2012.

**Verification** - For students who use the IRS Data Retrieval and are subsequently selected for verification, the Department of Education will notify the college as to which of the following items it must verify:

- ✔ Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)
- ✔ Number in College
- ✔ U.S. Taxes Paid
- ✔ Household size (number in household)
- ✔ Certain untaxed income reported on a tax return

**Students who are selected for verification and DID NOT** use the IRS Data Retrieval tool will be required to:

- ✔ Complete and submit the Verification Worksheet.
- ✔ Submit an official Tax Return Transcript obtainable from the IRS after the 2011 Tax Return has been filed.
- ✔ Submit Tax Return Transcripts for students or parents spouse’s who are married (not separated) but file income tax separately.

**Note:** Alamo Colleges is no longer allowed to accept a signed copy of a 1040 tax return form filed with the IRS to complete the verification process.

More information will be posted to your ACES account and the Student Financial Services web site accessible at www.alamo.edu.

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