

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SHREVEPORT
INDEPENDENT STUDENT'S HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD STATEMENT
2009-2010

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

SSN: _____

Your Student Aid Report (SAR) has been selected in a process called verification. This means that the information reported on your application must be reviewed by the Financial Aid staff at Louisiana State University Shreveport. You have already provided a copy of your 2008 income tax return, your spouse's 2008 income tax return and a Verification Worksheet for an Independent Student. The documents that you have provided have not answered all the questions needed to complete the verification process.

One of the areas that the Department of Education now requires Financial Aid Administrators to verify is your tax filing status. On your SAR you answered a question concerning your marital status with a "yes" meaning that you are married, but according to your income tax return you filed "Head of Household". IRS Publication 17 states that a married person can only file income taxes as "Married Filing Jointly" or "Married Filing Separately". However, a person can file "Head of Household" if they are considered by the IRS as unmarried.

In order for a married person to file "Head of Household" and to be considered unmarried by the IRS all of the following conditions must be met:

1. You filed a separate tax return for 2008 from your spouse.
2. You paid more than half the cost of keeping up a home for 2008.
3. Your spouse did not live in your home during the last six months of 2008. A spouse is considered to live in your home even if he or she is temporarily absent due to special circumstances. The special circumstance is _____.
4. Your home was the main home of your child, stepchild, or adopted child for more than half the year or the main home of your foster child for the entire year.
5. You can claim an income tax exemption for a child, stepchild or adopted child.

If you do not meet the conditions listed above, your income tax was filed using the wrong filing status. To correct this you must refile your income tax with the IRS and submit a 1040X to the Financial Aid Office. Please be aware that no further action can be taken on your request for financial assistance until this office receives a corrected tax return.

If you do meet all the conditions listed above you are required to sign below. By signing below you are stating that you meet all of the conditions listed above. Please be aware that if you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined \$20,000.00, sent to prison, or both.

Student's Signature

Date