Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

Your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education for a special verification group. You must verify your identity and sign a State of Educational Purpose before your financial aid eligibility can be determined.

To verify your identity, **you must either**:

- Visit the Tompkins Cortland Community College Financial Aid Office in person and present a valid government issued photo identification such as a driver's license, sheriff's ID or passport. You will meet with a financial aid counselor and complete Side A of the Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose. The counselor will photocopy your identity documentation.

OR

- Complete Side B of the Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose if you are unable to appear on the Tompkins Cortland Community College campus in person. You may appear before a notary in your area with a government issued photo identification such as a driver's license, sheriff's ID or passport. You must complete Side B in front of a notary. Mail the original notarized Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose **and** a copy of the valid government-issued photo identification acknowledged by the notary to Tompkins Cortland Community College.

You may use your social security number instead of your Student ID if you do not yet have a Tompkins Cortland Community College Student ID.

The Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose form must be completed in front of either a Financial Aid counselor (side A) or a Notary (side B). We cannot accept a faxed copy of the Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose. If you have any questions, you may contact us by email at aid@tompkinscortland.edu or by phone at 607-844-6580.

Return the original to:

Tompkins Cortland Community College Financial Aid Office
P.O. Box 139, 170 North Street| Dryden, New York 13053-0139
Phone: 607.844.6580 | Email: aid@tompkinscortland.edu |Fax: 607.844.6538

TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Side A

Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

(To Be Signed at the Institution)

The student must appear in person at **Tompkins Cortland Community College** to verify his or her identity by presenting a valid government-issued photo identification (ID), such as, but not limited to, a driver's license, other state-issued ID, or passport. The institution will maintain a copy of the student's photo ID that is annotated with the date it was received and the name of the official at the institution authorized to collect the student's ID.

In addition, **the student must sign, in the presence of the institutional official**, the following:

Statement of Educational Purpose

I certify that I _____ am the individual signing this
(**Print** Student's Name)
Statement of Educational Purpose and that the federal student financial assistance I may receive will only be used for educational purposes and to pay the cost of attending Tompkins Cortland Community College for 2025-2026.

*****All uploaded documents must be hand-signed by the student and parent (if required). Forms and documents submitted with digital signatures will not be accepted. *****

_____ _____
(Student's Signature) (Date)

_____

(Student's ID Number)

Side B

Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

(To Be Signed With Notary)

If the student is unable to appear in person at **Tompkins Cortland Community College** to verify his or her identity, the student must provide:

(a) A copy of the valid government-issued photo identification (ID) that is acknowledged in the notary statement below, such as but not limited to a driver's license, other state-issued ID, or passport; **and**

(b) The original notarized Statement of Educational Purpose provided below.

Statement of Educational Purpose

I certify that I _____ am the individual signing this
(**Print** Student's Name)
Statement of Educational Purpose and that the federal student financial assistance I may receive will only be used for educational purposes and to pay the cost of attending **Tompkins Cortland Community College** for 2025-2026.

*****All uploaded documents must be hand-signed by the student and parent (if required). Forms and documents submitted with digital signatures will not be accepted. *****

_____
(Student's Signature) (Date)

_____
(Student's ID Number)

Notary's Certificate of Acknowledgement

State of _____

City/County of _____

On_____, before me, _____,
(Date) (Notary's name)

personally appeared, _____, and provided to me
(Printed name of signer)
on basis of satisfactory evidence of identification _____
(Type of government-issued photo ID provided)
to be the above-named person who signed the foregoing instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal
(seal) _____
(Notary signature)
My commission expires on _____(Date)