



2026-2027

## Unusual Circumstances (Dependency Override) Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you are considered a dependent student, your financial aid eligibility is determined using your parent(s)' income and asset information. *The unwillingness of your parent(s) to provide parental data or your unwillingness to seek financial assistance from your parent(s) is not an acceptable reason to appeal your dependency status.* Please be aware that the following conditions are insufficient for making you eligible for a dependency override:

- Parents will not provide information for the FAFSA or verification.
- Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.

Occasionally, students can be considered independent due to unusual circumstances. For example

- Parental abandonment or estrangement
- Student separated from their parent(s) due to an unsafe environment
- Human trafficking
- Parental incarceration.

If you can **document** that you should be considered an independent student, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information. Your petition will be reviewed; if additional documents are needed, you will be contacted. An appointment with a Financial Aid Office officer may be required.

**Please complete all the following items in support of your request:**

1. Explain the unusual circumstances that you think make you an independent student. Additional pages may be attached as needed.

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2. Identify the name and location of both of your parents and describe when was the last time you that you had contact with them

Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Father: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Indicate where and with whom you currently reside and when you began living there. Please include how you are currently providing for your basic needs.

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4. Provide signed statements from at least one responsible adult who is aware of your situation. Statements from teachers, guidance counselors, members of the clergy are acceptable. These statements should be on agency stationary or school letterhead. *Statements from family members are not acceptable.*

These statements must include the following: supporter's relationship to you; date the supporter met you; and a concise summary of the details surrounding your situation.

You may also provide copies of court or police documents.

I certify that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please provide your signature in black or blue ink\*\***

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**\*\*For office use only\*\***

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Rationale: \_\_\_\_\_

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