



2011-2012 Dependency Override Request

Eligibility for assistance is based on the assumption that students and their parents are primarily responsible for paying for one's education. If the directions on your financial aid application instruct you to provide parents' information, then for financial aid purposes, you are dependent on your parents. (Parents are biological or adoptive parents.)

In extreme hardship cases the Financial Aid Office may be able to assist a student who is technically dependent, but who does not or cannot have contact with his/her biological or adoptive parents. This will apply to situations where the student's physical or emotional welfare is jeopardized by contact with the parents. In such cases, the student must complete this form **AND** provide written statements from a third party professional such as a minister, psychologist, social worker, school counselor, etc. If the student lives alone, he/she must also provide documentation such as tax returns, lease agreements, and/or utility statements, etc. to demonstrate ability to support oneself. Additional documentation may be requested if warranted by the situation.

Please note: Students will not be considered independent for financial aid purposes if the sole reason is that the student is attempting to prove self-sufficiency; the parent(s) refuse to provide financial information on the financial aid application; parent(s) refuse to contribute to the student's education; or parent(s) do not claim student as a dependent for income tax purposes.

Student Name _____ ID or SSN _____

Address _____ Phone No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mother

Father

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____ Phone No. _____

() Unknown

() Unknown

**Parents Information:
Do Not Leave Blank.**

Please read carefully and check the one that applies to you. Provide the Financial Aid Office with the requested information. Incomplete applications for dependency status changes will not be evaluated.

_____ Severe circumstances exist within your family, such as, but not limited to:

- a. Abusive home situation which is detrimental to you physical or mental well-being.
- b. Incarceration of the custodial parent.
- c. Abandonment by both parents.
- d. History of parental alcohol or drug abuse.

Supporting documentation required: Signed statement from adult professional who is not your family member which verifies your family circumstances. Adult professionals include clergy members, attorneys, school counselors, medical doctors, mental health professionals, teachers or professors, law enforcement officers, professional staff of Child and Family Services (Public Assistance Dept.) and officers of the court. Letter must be signed on original letterhead with the professional's title (Counselor, Attorney, Doctor, etc.). Attach signed copy of student's 2010 Federal Tax Return (Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ).

_____ Death of a parent after filing the FAFSA and the surviving parent meets one of the severe circumstances listed above.

Supporting documentation required: Signed statement from adult professional who is not your family member which verifies your family circumstances. Adult professionals include clergy members, attorneys, school counselors, medical doctors, mental health professionals, teachers or professors, law enforcement officers, professional staff of Child and Family Services (Public Assistance Dept.) and officers of the court. Letter must be signed on original letterhead with the professional's title (Counselor, Attorney, Doctor, etc.). Attach a photocopy of your parent's death certificate or newspaper obituary. If your last name is different from your parents', please provide legal documentation of birth, adoption, marriage, divorce, or other circumstances, which prove your relationship. Attach signed copy of student's 2010 Federal Tax Return (Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ).

_____ You are now divorced after being married and maintaining a residence apart from your parents and your former spouse's parents during the time you were married. You now maintain a separate residence from your parents and pay all expenses from your own income and assets.

Supporting documentation required: Complete copies of your marriage license, divorce decree, federal tax forms (Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ) and mortgage or rental agreements for the period in which you were married. Attach signed copy of student's 2010 Federal Tax Return (Form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ).

1. What are your present living arrangements? With whom do you live? How much rent do you pay each month? How long has this arrangement been going on?

7. **Supporting documentation must be attached.** The above information must be verified and documented in writing by a third party professional who is aware of your situation and who can corroborate the facts you present. The third party must not be a relative. Examples of such persons would include clergy, social workers or other social service personnel, court officials, teachers, counselors, and police officers. *Your request is NOT complete until you turn in this form to the Financial Aid Office with a written statement from an acceptable third party. If you have any questions as to acceptable documentation, please contact us.*

I certify that the information provided is accurate and agree to provide additional information if it is requested. I understand that this information may be used to override federal regulations regarding my dependency status. I understand that if I purposely give false or misleading information in connection with my application for federal aid, I may be subject to a fine of up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

I understand that if I move back in with my parents or receive any kind of support from them, I must report this to the Financial Aid Office immediately.

Student Signature

Date

For Office Use Only

_____ Dependency Override Approved

_____ Dependency Override Denied
List Reason Below in Blank Area.

- Adverse home environment
- Support by adult relative _____
- Incarcerated parent
- Applicant supports parent(s)
- Other; requires Director's approval

Certification : I hereby use my professional judgment based on the information and documentation provided.

Director of Financial Aid

Date