



Request for Dependency Override 2020-2021

Federal financial aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility for meeting the educational costs of students. If you are considered a dependent student according to the federal financial aid definition, your aid eligibility is determined by using parental information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signature(s) to be considered for financial aid.

However, Federal law allows for some exceptions. The following are **examples** of special circumstances that allow you to **request** a dependency override:

- Your parents are incarcerated; or
- You were removed from your home due to an abusive family environment; or
- You do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them and you have not been adopted.

The following are situations that would **NOT** be considered a special circumstance:

- Your parents do not want to provide their information to the college or on the FAFSA; or
- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- Your parents do not claim you as a dependent on their income tax forms; or
- You do not live with you parents.

Under Federal law, only your college has the authority to decide whether or not parental information is required on your FAFSA. If you feel you have a special circumstance, please complete this form AND provide documentation to verify your situation. Documentation cannot be from a friend or family member; third party documentation is required.

Student Name: _____ R-CCC ID#: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

You must complete and submit the following to request a dependency override:

1. A personal letter explaining the reason for your request for a dependency override. The letter must provide as much detail as possible, describing your separation from your parents. You are required to include the following documentation:
 - The whereabouts of your biological parents and their current living arrangements. Include the last contact you had with your biological parents and the frequency of contact with them over the past year(s).
 - Why you cannot provide parental information on the 2020-2021 FAFSA.
 - Your living arrangements over the past year(s), with whom you have lived with, and who has provided financial support for you.
 - Your name, social security number, and signature.

2. Letters from two individuals who can attest to your situation. Their letters should be one to two pages and provide as much detail as possible describing your separation from your parents.
 - a. The first letter should be from a professional individual not related to the student; some examples are: counselor, social worker, teacher, clergy, police, etc.
 - b. The second letter should be from either a professional or non-professional individual who is very familiar with your situation (who is **NOT** a family member).
 - c. Each letter must include the individual's name, title or position, address, telephone number, and must be signed by the individual.
 - d. The individuals cannot be related to each other and must reside at separate addresses.
3. A completed and signed 2020-2021 FAFSA – leave parent section blank.
4. 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript(s) and W-2's/1099's.
5. Complete the following information:

Did anyone claim you on their **2018 Federal Income Tax Return**? No Yes
 Person's Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Did you receive **AFDC/TANF, SSI, or Social Security checks in 2018**? No Yes
 Source: _____ Amount: \$ _____

2017 Expenses:	Provided by:
Housing: \$ _____	_____
Child Care: \$ _____	_____
Food: \$ _____	_____
Utilities: \$ _____	_____
Credit Cards: \$ _____	_____
Medical/Dental: \$ _____	_____
Clothing/Auto: \$ _____	_____

I certify that all information listed on this form is true and correct, and I understand that it 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 I must notify the Financial Aid Office immediately if I move back in with my parents or receive any kind of support from them.

Signature _____
Date

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