

2020-2021 DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE REQUEST FORM

Name: _____ SS#: _____
Address: _____ SID#: _____
Phone #: _____ Email _____

Financial aid legislation passed by Congress established the criteria to be considered independent for the 2020-2021 school year.

A student who does not meet any of these criteria must be considered a "dependent" student for financial aid purposes, which means the student is required by law to report parent income information on the financial aid application.

Although reporting parent income on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) does not obligate a parent to provide financial support, it must be reported to be able to calculate the student's eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant, Subsidized Stafford Loan, etc. Students who report parent income on the FAFSA and who do not demonstrate financial need may be offered a Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan.

Not being claimed as an exemption on the parent tax return does not make a student independent for financial aid purposes.

If you wish to be considered for a Dependency Override because you have special circumstances, such as parental abandonment or abuse, death of the responsible parent, or have been supported by someone other than your parent(s) for several years, you must document your situation in writing by providing the following:

- 1) A letter from yourself explaining the situation;
- 2) A letter from a relative or family friend;
- 3) A letter from a third party (a different relative or family friend, counselor, minister, or teacher--preferably not a fellow student) explaining the situation;
- 4) A copy of your most recent federal income tax return if you filed one;

Your letter should address the state of the relationship between you and your parents, their whereabouts, where you have lived for at least the past 12 months and how you have supported yourself. The supporting letters should do the same and include the author's address, relationship to you, and daytime phone number.

Complete Steps 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 of the 2020-2021 FAFSA, attach the completed FAFSA and the other required documentation described above and return it to this office.