

Student Name:

Student ID:

Email:

Telephone:

Academic Year:



Unusual Circumstance, Dependency Status Appeal Form

Reconsideration of a student's dependency status from "dependent" to "independent" may be warranted if you fall into any of these categories related to no contact with your parents.

- Human trafficking, as described in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status.
- Parental abandonment or estrangement.
- Student or parental incarceration.
- An abusive family environment that threatens the student's health or safety.
- Homeless unaccompanied youth.
- Risk of homelessness.

You should not request this adjustment if you fall into the below circumstances. Instead, please complete your FAFSA as a dependent student and include both you and your parent(s)' information.

- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses.
- Your parents refuse to supply the necessary information for FAFSA or FAFSA verification completion.
- Your parents don't claim you as a dependent for federal tax filing.
- You demonstrate complete financial self-sufficiency.

Documentation is required and may include (but is not limited to) the following:

- A documented interview between the student and the financial aid administrator;
 - Submission of a court order or official federal or state documentation that the student or student's parents or legal guardians are incarcerated;
 - A documented phone call or written statement, which confirms the unusual circumstances with:
 - A state, county or tribal welfare agency;
 - An independent living case worker who supports current and former foster youth with the transition to adulthood; or
 - A public or private agency, facility, or program servicing the victims of abuse, neglect, assault, or violence.
 - A documented phone call or written statement from an attorney, guardian ad litem, a court-appointed special advocate (or similar), or a representative of a TRIO or GEAR UP program which confirms the circumstances and the person's relationship to the student;
 - A documented determination of independence made by a financial aid administrator at another institution in the same or a prior award year; or
 - Utility bills, health insurance, or other documents that demonstrate a separation from parents or legal guardians.
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Provide a written, personal statement below that completely explains the basis of your appeal. Please note that your statement will be used only to determine if a dependency exception is warranted and this information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Date of Separation: Mother _____

Father _____

Please explain your current relationship with **both** your biological and/or adoptive parent even if they are currently divorced or separated:

Additional Sheet(s) ☐ Attached To This Form or ☐ No Additional Sheet(s) Needed

I hereby certify that all information contained in this appeal for independent status, including my personal statement and other documentation, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I affirm that I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any false statements or fraudulent documentation. I understand that if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false or fraudulent statements and/or documentation, my appeal will be denied and my eligibility for Federal, State, and Institutional student aid will be jeopardized.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Documentation is critical – Capital University must ensure that any supporting documentation collected is adequate to substantiate the student's circumstances. At least one acceptable source of third-party documentation which verifies all the facts of your appeal must be submitted.

Please note: If a letter from a professional is not possible, please explain why and obtain three letters from persons that know your family situation first-hand. Please have them state their relationship to you in their letter. Additional documentation may be required.

Dependent students whose parents refuse to support them are not eligible for a dependency override, but they may be able to receive a dependent level Direct Unsubsidized Loan only. For a student to be eligible for this provision the student's parent(s) must document the following:

- The student's parents refuse to complete the FAFSA; and/or
- The student's parents do not and will not provide any financial support to the student (include the date support ended).

If the parent(s) refuse to sign and date a statement to this effect, students must provide documentation from a third party (the student is not sufficient), such as a teacher, counselor, cleric, or court.

Office Use Only: Approved: _____ Denied: _____ Date: ____/____/____ Aid Year: _____

FAA: _____

Comments: _____
