



2026-2027

Unusual Circumstances Request Form

This petition is used to request a dependency override if you are currently considered a dependent for federal student aid purposes. Section 479A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 permits a financial aid administrator to make dependency override on a case-by-case basis due to unusual circumstances where you may submit your FAFSA without parental information. . The outcome of this petition is dependent on the nature of your circumstance(s) and the documentation provided to support your petition. All documentation submitted is kept confidential. Some examples of unusual circumstances are (parents' incarceration, adverse/abusive family environment, abandonment).

Please note:

- Your reluctance to request income information from your parent(s) or the unwillingness of your parent(s) to pay or provide information does not justify a dependency override.
- Self-sufficiency, in and of itself, does not justify a dependency override.
- Estrangement from your parent(s) does not merit a dependency override.

Requirements:

Provide a detailed personal statement, supporting documentation, and a third-party statement in order for your petition to be reviewed. All three items must be submitted before your situation can be fully reviewed.

1. Personal Statement

Please attach a typed personal statement that summarizes the unusual and/or extenuating circumstances. Your statement should describe your relationship with your parent(s) and include any circumstances surrounding the situation such as last date of parent contact and location of your parent(s). Include detailed information on how you provide for yourself.

2. Supporting Documentation

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Please attach relevant supporting documentation, such as court documents, legal documents or police reports.

3. Third Party Statement

Please attach a typed, signed, and dated statement(s) from a third party (e.g. guidance counselor, doctor, lawyer, teacher, clergy member, or social worker) summarizing your unusual circumstances and their knowledge concerning your relationship with your parent(s). If a family member, who is not your parent, has raised you or is currently supporting you, submit an additional statement from that family member.

By signing this form, you certify that all of the information reported on and submitted with this form is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge. If requested, you agree to provide proof of the information that you have reported on this form. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sentenced to jail, or both.

Print Student's Name

Student's ID Number

Student's Signature (*Required*)

Date