



CF ID No.: _____

Legal Name: _____
Last First Middle (complete) Jr., etc.

Telephone: _____ Best Time to Call: _____

The federal formula used to determine eligibility for financial aid assumes that the **primary** responsibility for paying college costs rests with the family. In rare instances, the Office of Financial Aid has the ability to grant independent status to a student who otherwise would be considered dependent even though the student does not meet the criteria outlined in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, FAFSA, for independent status.

If you have unique or extenuating circumstances, you may file this Financial Aid Petition for Independent Status form. **The fact that you are supporting yourself is *not* an extenuating circumstance.** The unwillingness of your parents to provide FAFSA application information is ***not*** considered justification for filing this petition. Types of extenuating circumstances that would warrant the filing of this are abuse by your parents, incarceration of parent(s), abandonment as a child, or other unusual extenuating circumstances. In order to corroborate your unique situation, you must submit written documentation from all appropriate persons (lawyer, doctor, counselor, teacher, minister, etc.) or agencies (court(s), State Department of Children and Family Services, etc.).

Instructions:

1. Use this form only if you are required to report parent information on your FAFSA but have unusual circumstances that prevent you from obtaining the required information.
2. Attach a typed statement explaining your circumstances with your parents. Include dates and significant events that indicate abuse, neglect or abandonment by your parents. Explain in detail each of the following:
 - Where you currently live, who are you living with, and how long you have been in this current living arrangement
 - Where are your parents and why are you unable to obtain their information for your FAFSA
 - If someone other than your parent(s) has been providing your support
3. Attach written documentation supporting your statement above. You should submit **at least** one written statement, on letterhead, from an impartial professional who is familiar with your family situation Also attach court orders and/or police reports, if applicable. If you are not able to provide the requested information, contact the Office of Financial Aid for guidance.

Allow at least two weeks for the decision. You will be notified of the decision in writing. Processing your FAFSA after the decision is made usually takes 5-10 working days. All actions resulting from this petition are contingent upon funding availability and any processing deadlines which may be in effect at the time of the petition approval. All decisions by the director of Financial Aid are final.

I certify that the above information and the attachments provided are accurate representations of my circumstances. I understand that providing false or deliberately misleading statements is a violation of federal law and may result in a prison sentence, fines or both.

Student Signature

Date: MM/DD/YY

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	_____ Financial Aid Director Signature	_____ Date: MM/DD/YY
Comments: _____			