



DEPENDENCY STATUS
2022-2023

The Financial Aid Office is unable to fully process your FAFSA until you provide documentation to support your dependency status. The information below will help you determine the documentation you will need to provide. You must provide a copy of your birth certificate, **and** the documentation specified for each option.

1. When you were 13 or older, were you in foster care or a dependent/ward of the court? If yes, you must provide documentation from your home state documenting your foster care or ward of the court status. If you do not have such a court order or the court order is no longer in effect, you should answer NO to this question.
2. On the date you completed the FAFSA, were you an emancipated minor as determined by your state of legal residence? If yes, you must provide a copy of a court's decision that you are an emancipated minor. The court must be located in your state of legal residence. If you do not have such a court order, you should answer NO to this question.
3. On the date you completed the FAFSA, were you in legal guardianship as determined by your state of legal residence? A caregiver or other person with whom you are living is only considered a legal guardian if a court in your state of legal residence has established guardianship. If you answered yes, provide a copy of a court order indicating that legal guardianship was established. If you are living with a caregiver, but that caregiver is not your legal guardian as established by a court, you should answer NO to this question.

Definitions for questions 4-6:

- Homeless means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, motels or cars, or temporarily living with other people because you have nowhere else to go.
 - Unaccompanied means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.
 - Youth means you are 21 years of age or younger or you were still enrolled in high school on the date you completed the FAFSA.
4. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did your high school or school district homeless liaison (refer to attached list) determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? Answer YES if you received a determination at any time after July 1, 2020, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless. You must provide a copy of this documentation. Answer NO if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless or if you cannot provide a copy of the determination.
 5. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did the director of an emergency shelter program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? You must provide a copy of this determination. Answer NO if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless or if you cannot provide a copy of the determination.
 6. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basics center or transitional living program (refer to attached list) determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? You must provide a copy of this documentation. Answer NO if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless or if you cannot provide a copy of the determination.

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, **you must provide the requested documentation**. If you answered NO to all of the questions or cannot provide the requested documentation, you must contact the Office of Financial Aid for further instructions.

