Financial Aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility for meeting the educational costs of students. You are considered a dependent student according to the financial aid definition and your aid eligibility is determined by using parent income and asset information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signatures to be considered for financial aid.

The U.S. government has identified five conditions that, individually or in combination with one another, do NOT qualify as “unusual circumstances” for a dependency override. Those circumstances that are not considered a basis for an appeal are:

• Parent(s) unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification
• Parent(s) not claiming student as a dependent on their tax return
• Student is not being supported by parents and is completely self-supporting
• Parent(s) refuse to contribute to the student’s education
• Parent(s) live in a foreign country

Occasionally, students should be considered independent due to unusual circumstances (for example, parent is incarcerated or otherwise unable to communicate due to severe health reasons, etc.). If you can document why you should be considered independent for some other unusual reason, complete ALL questions of this appeal and attach supporting documentation, as indicated.

Complete the following sections.

1. Identify the location of both your parents
   Mother/stepmother: ________________________________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   Father/stepfather: ________________________________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

2. Explain the last time you had contact with each of your parents. When, where and the nature of the contact (attach an extra page, if necessary):
   Mother/stepmother: ________________________________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________
   Father/stepfather: ________________________________________________
   __________________________
   __________________________

(OVER)
3. **Explain in detail** the unusual circumstances that make you independent on a separate sheet of paper.

4. **Include statements** from two responsible adults who are aware of your situation. One statement can be from a relative, friend or acquaintance (such as a guidance counselor or teacher.) The other must be someone other than a relative or friend. Such a person could be a member of the clergy, social worker or court officer (copies of appropriate court documents are recommended to support your application).

5. **Please complete the following documentation** for self-support (show amounts per month). NOTE: A counselor may request additional income information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent/mortgage</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable TV</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groceries</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc./Personal</td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Monthly Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$ ______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **I certify** the information provided on this application is true and correct:

   STUDENT’S SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE ____________

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**For Office use only:**

- **Counselor’s Decision:**
  - [ ] Approved  
  - [ ] Denied

- **Comment:**
  __________________________  
  __________________________

   COUNSELOR’S SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE ____________