



2023-2024 Dependency Appeal Application

Student's Name: _____ HCCC ID: _____ Phone: (____) - _____

Dependency Appeal Process

The dependency appeal process allows a student who has unusual circumstances to appeal to be considered independent even though they do not meet any of the independent student criteria on the FAFSA. **Unusual Circumstances** refer to the conditions that justify an aid administrator performing a dependency override (i.e., an adjustment to a student's dependency status) based on a unique situation, such as parental abandonment, incarceration, human trafficking, or refugee or asylee status.

Directions

You must check one reason below and provide the requested documentation. Your personal statement must be complete and specific. All information you provide will be used solely to determine your dependency status and held by the Financial Aid Office in strictest confidence.

Reason for Appeal

Examples of unusual circumstances include, but are not limited to, circumstances in which the student is unable to contact a parent or where contact with parents poses a risk to the student, such as circumstances of:

- Parental abandonment or estrangement;
- Human trafficking;
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status; or
- Student or parental incarceration

Documentation

Please check all documentation that you will be providing the Financial Aid Office

- Personal statement explaining the family situation
- Submission of a court order of official Federal or State documentation that the students' parents or legal guardian are incarcerated
- A 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 that confirms the circumstances and the person's relationship to the student
- A written statement from adult professionals who are familiar with your situation (Adult professional includes clergy members, lawyers, guidance counselors, teachers or professors, social workers, etc.)
- Others:(Enclose all supporting documents)

Personal Statement

Conditions that are NOT GROUNDS for a dependency override:

- The student is financially self-sufficient
- The student is not living with parents
- The parent(s) are unwilling to help student’s college education
- The parent(s) do not claim the student as a dependent on their tax return
- The parent(s) are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA application or verification

The Financial Aid counselor will review the appeal and supporting documentation. *The Financial Aid Office may request for additional information to complete the review of the application.* The Financial Aid Office will notify the student within two weeks of the submission of a complete appeal.

Filling out this form does not mean that your appeal will be granted.

I declare that all the information I provided on this form is true and correct.

Student’s Signature

Date