



Unusual Circumstance

A student's dependency status is determined in accordance with federal rules and regulations. Congress has repeatedly emphasized their belief that a student's education is a family responsibility. This means that parents, as well as the student, should share in the cost of education. The definition of a dependent student reflects this principle. A student's status may be changed from dependent to independent when documented unusual circumstances exist.

Federal guidelines prohibit financial aid administrators from considering a student independent solely on the basis of the student being self-supporting or because the parents are unwilling to provide financial data or support.

Your FAFSA indicates that you may have unusual circumstances that prevented you from adding your parent's information to the FAFSA. Please provide the information needed below so that our office can review your account.

If after our review, you are not determined to be an independent student, you will only be eligible for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan for this award year unless you complete the FAFSA as a dependent student and are determined to be eligible for additional need-based aid.

Section I: Personal Statement

Please provide our office a **typed and signed** personal statement explaining your unusual circumstance.

Section II: Student's Certification:

I certify the information provided is true and correct. If requested, I agree to provide additional documentation as needed to verify my request. Documentation could include one or more of the following: submission of a court order that the student's parents are incarcerated, a written statement which confirms the unusual circumstance from a child welfare agency, an attorney, a court appointed special advocate; utility bills, health insurance or other documents that demonstrate a separation from parents or legal guardians. I understand that if it is suspected that I knowingly gave false information; my file will be referred to the U.S. Department of Education OIG for fraud and abuse.

Student ID: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____