

2024-2025 Special Circumstances Request – Dependency Status Change

Student Name _____ Student ID# _____

If you are classified as a dependent student based upon criteria established by the Department of Education (Step Three of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid-FAFSA), you may complete this form to appeal for reclassification.

Students classified as dependent may petition to be reclassified as independent based upon documented adverse family circumstances that make obtaining your parents' FAFSA information impossible. Examples of adverse conditions include but are not limited to severe estrangement from parents, an unsafe home environment, unknown whereabouts of your parents, abuse, abandonment, drug abuse, and parent incarceration.

This form can be used to request a review of extenuating circumstances regarding your dependent status. These extenuating circumstances must be documented by an objective third party (i.e. high school or college counselor, social services agency official, pastor or clergy, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.) to qualify.

The following examples **will not** make you independent:

1. Parents refuse to financially contribute to the student's education
2. Parents refuse to fill out information necessary to complete the FAFSA
3. Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
4. Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency

Please check one of the following boxes:

I am submitting the Independent Appeal form for initial consideration during the 2024-2025 academic year. I understand that if my appeal is approved, I must submit a statement verifying that the documented adverse family circumstances still exist for each subsequent year I wish to receive financial aid. I am required to complete all steps of this form.

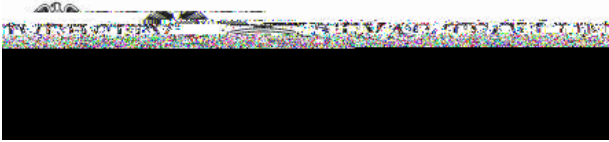
My Independent Appeal was approved at TTUHSC in a prior academic year. However, Federal Regulations require me to submit a statement verifying that the documented adverse family circumstances still exist. In addition, I am required to complete, steps 1, and 4 of this form.

Step 1. Complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. (all students)

Step 2. Submit the following documents: (initial student appeals)

1. Submit a typed letter detailing the special circumstances that make you independent from your parent(s). You must describe your current relationship (even if it is non-existent) with your parent(s). Address the following items:
 - The nature of your relationship with your parent(s)
 - Provide the date and place of your last contact with your parent(s)
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2023?	At home with parents	On campus	Off campus
Where will you live in 2024?	At home with parents	On campus	Off campus
Did your parent(s) claim you as an exemption on their 2022 federal tax return?	Yes	No	
Did or will your parent(s) claim you as an exemption on their 2023 federal tax return?	Yes	No	
Did your parent(s) provide your health insurance in 2023?	Yes	No	
Will your parent(s) provide your health insurance in 2024?	Yes	No	
Did your parent(s) provide your auto insurance in 2023?	Yes	No	
Will your parent(s) provide your auto insurance in 2024?	Yes	No	



2024-2025 Special Circumstances Request – Dependency Status Change, continued

Section B: Student Budget & Assets. Round to nearest dollar. Do not leave any blanks. Enter -0- or N/A.

*Attach a signed copy of your 2023 federal tax return, list of 2023 income, and W-2 form(s) or other earning statement(s).

2024 Student Income Resources	Monthly Amount	Source (ex. work, par
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