



COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS - FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

26455 Rockwell Canyon Road • Santa Clarita, California • 91355
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2020-2021 Dependency Override Appeal

Last Name	First Name	COC ID Number:							
Social Security Number:		Date of Birth:		Phone Number					
Address, City, State, ZIP									
Email Address									

INSTRUCTIONS: You may petition to have your dependency status changed from Dependent to Independent if you think you have a special circumstance that prevents you from providing parental information on your FAFSA. Provide a brief statement below and attach REQUIRED documents supporting your petition. Once you have completed your petition, contact the Financial Aid Office at (661) 362-3215 for an appointment with an advisor.

Before you submit this petition, please be advised of the following:

Under Federal law to the extent your family is able, they are the primary resource for paying for your college expenses. To determine how much your family can afford to pay towards your college expenses, you must report your financial information AND your parents' financial information on your FAFSA.

However, Federal law allows for some exceptions, if you have a special circumstance. The following are examples of some special circumstances where you may submit your FAFSA without providing parental information:

- ~ Your parents are incarcerated; or
- ~ You have left home due to an abusive family environment; or
- ~ You do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them (and you have not been adopted)

But not all situations are considered a special circumstance. The following are situations that would not be considered a special circumstance:

- ~ Your parents do not want to provide their information on your FAFSA; or
- ~ Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- ~ Your parents do not claim you as a dependent on their income taxes; or
- ~ You do not live with your parents

Under Federal law, only your Financial Aid Administrator has the authority to decide whether or not you must provide parental information on your FAFSA. After reviewing your circumstances carefully, your Financial Aid Administrator will decide if you must provide parental information or if your circumstances allow you to proceed without providing parental data. The decision made by your Financial Aid Administrator is final and cannot be appealed to Federal Student Aid.

SECTION 1: REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Please attach the following REQUIRED documentation.

- ☐ A **detailed statement** from you, the student, as to why you are unable to provide parental information.
- ☐ Provide **documentation to verify your situation**. Gather as much written evidence of your situation as you can. Written evidence may include court or law enforcement documents, letters from a clergy member, school counselor or social worker, and/or any other relevant data that explains why you are unable to provide parental information.
- ☐ Provide evidence of **self-supporting income** (ie. current pay stubs, tax returns, etc).
- ☐ A **completed and signed FAFSA** (if you have not previously filed one).

SECTION 2: PERSONAL STATEMENT

Statement of Circumstance(s) - Attach additional pages if more space is needed. Make sure your information is clear and concise. Avoid vague statements such as "I had personal problems." The petition should not include statements based on financial need.

Certification: I hereby certify that all information reported on this form and any attachments hereto are true, complete, and accurate. Further, I understand that false statements and/or misrepresentations will result in denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of aid disbursed and student disciplinary action may be taken. *(Please sign and date below)*

Student Signature _____ Date _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____ Recommendation: Approval / Denial / Further Review

FA Administrator: _____ Date: _____ Decision: Approved / Denied / Further Review