



## 2025-2026 Request for Dependency Status Review

### Student Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ RIC ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Occasionally, due to unusual circumstances, a student may be considered independent. If you are able to document why you should be considered independent due to unusual circumstances, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information.

### The following are not considered to be unusual circumstances:

1. Parents refusing to contribute to the student's education
2. Parents unwilling to provide information on the application for verification
3. Parents not claiming the student for income tax purposes
4. Student demonstrating total self-sufficiency

### Please attach the following:

1. A letter explaining your unusual circumstances. In your letter, please:
  - a. Identify the location of both of your parents.
  - b. Describe the last time you had contact with each of your parents, including when, where and the nature of this contact
  - c. Describe how you have been supporting yourself.
    - i. When did you start meeting your expenses without parental support?
    - ii. How have you financially supported yourself?
2. A letter from someone (preferably family) who may attest to your circumstances.
3. A letter on agency letterhead from another individual or organization (lawyer, priest, guidance counselor, social service advocate) who may attest to your description of your circumstances.

### Student Signature:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_