



2026-2027 Request for Dependency Status Review

Student Information:
Name: _____ RIC ID: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
The following are <u>not</u> considered to be unusual circumstances:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Parents refusing to contribute to the student's education2. Parents unwilling to provide information on the application for verification3. Parents not claiming the student for income tax purposes4. Student demonstrating total self-sufficiency
Please attach the following:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A letter explaining your unusual circumstances. In your letter, please:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Identify the location of <u>both</u> of your parents.b. Describe the last time you had contact with each of your parents- when, where, and the nature of the contact.c. Describe how you have been self-supporting.<ol style="list-style-type: none">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 unusual circumstances.3. A letter on agency letterhead from another individual/agency (lawyer, priest, guidance counselor, social service advocate) who may attest to your unusual circumstances.
Student Signature:
Signature: _____ Date: _____