



2015 - 2016 INDEPENDENCY STATUS VERIFICATION FORM

STUDENT NAME: _____ SPU ID: _____

On your 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you indicated at least one of the following circumstances:

- When you were age 13 or older, both your parents were deceased.
- When you were age 13 or older, you were in foster care.
- When you were age 13 or older, you were a dependent/ward of the court.
- As of the day you filed the FAFSA, you were an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence.
- As of the day you filed the FAFSA, you were in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence.

Please confirm this by answering the following questions.

1. **Deceased Parents:** Have you, at any time since you turned 13, had no living parent (biological or adoptive), even if you are now adopted?
☐ Yes
☐ No
2. **Foster Care:** Were you, at any time since you turned 13, in foster care, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today?
☐ Yes (If you answered "Yes", attach documentation)
☐ No
3. **Dependent/ward of the court:** Were you, at any time since you turned 13, a dependent/ward of the court even if you are no longer a dependent/ward of the court as of today? (For federal student aid purposes, someone who is incarcerated is not considered a ward of the court.)
☐ Yes (If you answered "Yes", attach documentation)
☐ No
4. **Emancipated minor:** As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor? Answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor. Also answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were emancipated immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. Answer "No" if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.
☐ Yes (If you answered "Yes", attach documentation and a letter of explanation of your emancipated status)
☐ No
5. **Legal Guardianship:** As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship? Answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are in legal guardianship. Also answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. Answer "No" if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.
☐ Yes (If you answered "Yes", attach documentation and a letter of explanation of your legal guardianship status)
☐ No

Once our office receives all of the required documentation, we will continue processing your request for financial aid.

By signing this verification statement, I attest that all information reported on this form and in attached statements is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked, I agree to submit documentation supporting the information provided on this form.

Student Signature

Date

Phone

Email