



Student Name

PC ID

2023-2024 Unusual Circumstances Worksheet

The Department of Education does not consider a student to be Independent until you are 24 years old, married, have dependents of your own, serving on active duty or veteran of the US armed forces, an orphan or ward of the court after the age of 13, an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship determined by the court, or an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or risk of being homeless. However, Financial Aid Administrators have the ability to review and determine if a student's situation warrants a dependency override due to unusual circumstances.

Unusual circumstances do include:

- Human trafficking, as described in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000;
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status;
- Parental abandonment or estrangement; or
- Student or parental incarceration

However, none of the conditions listed below, singly or in combination, qualify as unusual circumstances meriting a dependency override.

Unusual circumstances do not include:

- Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education.
- Parents will not provide information for the FAFSA or verification.
- Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.

Student Information

Student First Name

Student Last Name

PC ID

Best contact email/phone number



Student Name

PC ID

Documentation

Documentation is required to support your appeal and must be submitted with this form.

1. You must submit a detailed, signed and dated personal statement that clearly explains your unique and/or special family circumstance. The statement must describe your relationship with your (biological or adoptive) parents, even if it is non-existent, and provide as much detail as possible describing your separation from your parents. To avoid delays in considering your situation, address both parents.

2. In addition to your personal statement, you must provide additional supporting documentation. Review the following options, indicate which method(s) you are using, and attach the documentation.

_____ Legal documentation - Examples include: police reports, court reports, documentation from a social services agency, or a copy of a death certificate.

_____ Statements from at least two third-party adult professionals - Examples include: social workers, mental or medical health professionals, church or religious members, school guidance counselors, coaches, or teachers. Letters should be on official letterhead and should explain the situation in detail regarding your relationship with both your (biological or adoptive) parents. Each letter must include the individual's name, title/position, address, phone number, e-mail address, signature and date.

_____ Statements from at least two objective parties - Examples include: an adult relative or neighbor, parent of a friend, an employer, or a supervisor. The letters should be from people who have firsthand knowledge of your situation and are able to confirm the circumstances you described in your statement regarding your relationship with both your (biological or adoptive) parents. If you were raised by a family member or another person who is not your parent, a statement may be provided from that person. Each letter must include the individual's name, title/position, address, phone number, e-mail address, signature and date.

Certifications and Signatures

Each person signing below certifies that all of the information reported is complete and correct. The student and one parent whose information was reported on the FAFSA must sign and date.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.

Student Signature and Date