



-Parents Death – in the case that the parent is remarried and the custodial parent dies, the stepparent is no longer considered a parent for federal student aid purposes. The surviving, non-custodial parent then becomes responsible for completing the FAFSA. If any of the above situations apply to the surviving parent, the student should proceed with the appeal (Document this by providing 2 third-party witness statements and a student statement describing the relationship with the parents and proof of the student’s income for the last two years.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ If there is another situation that you feel should make you eligible for independent student status. (Please explain the circumstances in complete detail on a separate piece of paper. Submit appropriate documentation to verify this situation.)
  
- The following conditions do not qualify as an unusual circumstance for financial aid dependency status:
  - Parents refuse to contribute to the student’s education.
  - Parents are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification.
  - Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
  - Student does not live with parent(s) and is self-supporting

There are limitations to the circumstances the U.S. Department of Higher Education will allow financial aid professionals to consider for appeal. To remain equitable, our office will review all applications on a case-by-case basis.

**Section B: STUDENT CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES**

My signature here certifies that the information and documentation is true to the best of my knowledge. Should this information change, I will contact the Financial Aid Office.

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

Financial Aid Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Denied: \_\_\_\_\_