

Documentation of Dependency Status: Independent Confirmation

I am completing FAFSA Dependency Status for the term(s): Fall 20 _____ Spring 20 _____ Summer 20 _____

Student Name: _____ SSN: _____ KWU STID# _____

Instructions: Your answers to Personal Circumstances questions on your FAFSA indicate you may be Independent. Please complete the following form to confirm your status. If none of the circumstances apply and you do not meet the other criteria for an independent student, you must provide parent information on your FAFSA form. This is true even if you don't live with your parent, your parent isn't paying your college expenses, or your parent doesn't claim you as a dependent on their taxes.

**You will not be able to receive a Financial Aid Award Letter until this issue is resolved.
THIS IS AN URGENT MATTER.**

Section A – Independent for reason other than age: Please indicate which criteria is true for you by initialing to the left. **Then submit documentation in support of this claim.**

	When I filed the FAFSA I was married. If you are now legally separated or divorced and not over the age of 24, you will need to make corrections to the FAFSA and provide parent information.
	I do have or will have children who will receive more than half of their support from me between July 1 st and June 30 th of the current academic year.
	At some time since I turned 13, both of my parents were deceased, I was in foster care, or I was a dependent or ward of the court.
	As determined by a court in my legal state of residence, I was an emancipated minor.
	As determined by a court in my legal state of residence, I was in legal guardianship.
	I am currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training. (If you are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee, are you on active duty for other than state or training purposes?)
	I am a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Section B – Other Circumstance: Please indicate which criteria is true for you by initialing to the left. **Then submit documentation in support of this claim.**

	At some time after July 1 st of the previous academic year my local educational agency homeless liaison, as designated by the <i>McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act</i> , determined I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.
	At some time after July 1 st of the previous academic year, the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development or other program serving individuals who are experiencing homelessness determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.
	At some time after July 1 st of the previous academic year, the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program funded under Subtitle IV of the <i>McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act</i> or the director of a Federal TRIO program or GEAR UP grant program determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.
	A financial aid administrator documented my homeless circumstance in the same or prior award year.

Section C – Unusual Circumstance: Please indicate which criteria is true for you by initialing to the left.

Then submit documentation in support of this claim.

	Your parents are incarcerated.
	You have left home due to an abusive or threatening environment.
	You have been abandoned or estranged from your parents and have not been adopted.
	You were granted refugee or asylee status and are separated from your parents, or your parents are displaced in a foreign country.
	You are a victim of human trafficking.
	You are otherwise unable to contact or locate your parents and have not been adopted.
	NONE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES LISTED IN SECTION A, B, OR C APPLY TO ME.

Section C - Unusual circumstances may prevent you from including your parent information on the FAFSA. This may still result in your status being Dependent or it may warrant a Dependency Override. Under federal law, the Financial Aid office has authority to decide whether parental information is needed on your FAFSA form.

You must submit the following items for us to review your circumstances:

- 1) A personal signed letter from you explaining your request for a dependency override.** Provide as much detail as possible describing your separation for your parents. The following information is **required**:
 - Include the last contact you had with each parent and the frequency of contact with each parent over the past year.
 - Explain why you cannot provide parental financial information on your FAFSA.
 - Describe your living arrangements over the past several years, including with whom you resided and who has provided support to you.
- 2) Letters from two (2) individuals who can attest to your situation.** The letters should provide as much detail as possible describing your separation from your parents. Stating that you live on your own and support yourself is not grounds for a Dependency Override. We need information pertaining to your relationship with / separation from your parents.
 - Each letter must include the individual's name, title or position, address, and signature.
 - Once letter must be from a professional individual and must be on letterhead. This person cannot be related to you or live at the same address as you. It could be a teacher, counselor, pastor, social worker, doctor, etc.
 - The second letter can be from somebody who can verify your situation as described above. This person cannot be related to you or live at the same address as you. This could be a friend's mother, a grandparent, etc.

I have provided the required documentation which supports the criteria selected from the tables. I affirm that the information provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Attach required court or other official documents to this form and submit them all to the KWU Office of Financial Aid. **Note:** Unofficial documents will not be accepted. If you cannot provide official documentation, please contact our office at 785-833-4315.

Definitions:

Homeless means lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing. The student may be homeless if they're living in shelters, parks, motels, hotels, public spaces, camping grounds, cars, abandoned buildings, or they're temporarily living with other people because they have nowhere else to go. Also, if they're living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent, they may be considered homeless even if their parent would otherwise provide a place to live.

At risk of being homeless means the student's housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate. For example, the student is being evicted or being asked to leave their current residence and is unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing.