

2019-2020 Independent Status Petition

Last Name	First Name	HU ID Number
Email Address	Contact Number	

Independent Status Definition

The federally mandated formula used to determine your financial need is based on the premise that your family has the primary responsibility to pay for your education. The federal government has specific standards to determine who has independent status and is not required to provide parental information when applying for financial aid.

Students appealing for independent status must clearly demonstrate how their circumstances would allow for an override of the federal definition of a dependent student. Approvals are only granted to students with extenuating circumstances and are unable to obtain parental information for the FAFSA because it is unsafe to contact parents or impossible to do so. **Refusal by parent(s) to provide date or financial assistance does not justify an appeal for independent status.**

Section 1: Required Documentation

All required documentation is listed below and must be attached to the appeal. Incomplete appeals will not be considered. Write your name and HU ID number on every document submitted.

1. **Personal Statement** – Submit a typed, signed, and dated statement that clearly outlines (1) the extenuating circumstances you believe make you independent, and (2) specifically describe how you supported yourself during the last calendar year.
2. **Notarized Third-Party Statements** – Submit a minimum of two typed and signed third party statements from those who can attest to your extenuating circumstances. Documents can be notarized statements from family members, court documents, typed, dated and signed statements on official letterhead from a high school counselor, case worker, clergy member, or other professional who can confirm that your situation warrants independent status consideration.
3. **Financial Verification Documents** – Complete the Independent Verification Worksheet and accompanying documentation which includes:
 - a. 2017 tax return transcripts from the IRS if you worked and filed; OR
 - b. All 2017 W2s and IRS verification of non-filing if you worked and did not file.

Section 2: Student information

1. What are your current living arrangements (circle one): On-Campus Off-Campus With Friends/Relatives Other
 If living with friends/relative, identify who: _____
 If "other," explain: _____
2. Were you claimed by anyone on their federal income tax return for the prior two calendar years? Yes No
 If yes, identify person, relationship, and year: _____

Section 3: Certification

I certify that the information I have provided is accurate and complete, and I understand that any false information may be cause for denial, reduction, and/or immediate repayment of all aid. I understand that purposely submitting false or misleading information on this worksheet may lead to fines, sentencing to jail, or both.

Signature	Date
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For Office Use Only:

Received by: _____	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> Pending FAA Initials: _____ Date: _____	