



2016 - 2017 Petition for Dependency Status Review

Office of Financial Aid
1300 S Country Club Road - El Reno, OK 73036
405-422-6250 – Fax: 405-422-1463

A student may request a dependency override if they do not meet the statutory definition for independent status for federal financial aid recipients. To be considered independent you must be able to document unusual or exceptional family circumstances. Living in your own apartment, paying rent or other bills, claiming yourself on your federal tax return, and/or parents not claiming you on their taxes do not constitute unusual circumstances.

This form is for dependent students who do not meet the federal criteria for “independent” status but wish to have their unique circumstances reviewed in order to be considered an independent student. Students who are estranged from their parents due to extreme circumstances (e.g., child abuse, abandonment, family alcoholism, drug abuse, etc.) which can be documented by an objective third party (e.g., pastor, high school or college counselor, a social service agency official, etc.) may qualify for this special treatment. A student may **NOT** appeal to be an independent due to:

- Parent refuses to complete the FAFSA
- Parent refuses to provide the required documentation
- Student refuses to request information from the parents
- Student is not claimed as an exemption on parent’s federal tax return
- Student is not supported financially by the parent(s).

Incomplete requests will be returned to the student and not reviewed.

Name: _____ Date: _____

SSN/RCC ID: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

A. Student Information:

Indicate the amount and source(s) of your annual income for 2014, 2015 and 2016. Attach signed copies of your 2014 & 2015 federal tax returns, statements from social services, W-2 forms, etc. Include both taxable and non-taxable income.

2014 \$ _____ Source _____
 2015 \$ _____ Source _____
 2016 \$ _____ Source _____

Where did you live in: (Please circle the appropriate response)

2014:	with parents	with relatives	on your own	other _____
2015:	with parents	with relatives	on your own	other _____
2016:	with parents	with relatives	on your own	other _____

Expenses: Complete calendar year expenses by using total amounts for each item.

2014	2015	2016	
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	Housing (rent or house payments)
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	Food
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	Transportation (car payments, gas, insurance)
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	Utilities (gas, water, electric, cable)
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	Personal (entertainment, cell phone, clothing)
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	TOTAL

B. Parent Information, if any:

List any expenses paid on your behalf by your parents in 2014, 2015 or 2016. (Example medical or car insurance)

2014	\$ _____	type _____
2015	\$ _____	type _____
2016	\$ _____	type _____

Did or will your parents claim you on their taxes as a dependent in 2014? _____ Yes _____ No
Did or will your parents claim you on their taxes as a dependent in 2015? _____ Yes _____ No
Will your parents claim you on their taxes as a dependent in 2016? _____ Yes _____ No

Incomplete requests will be returned to the student and not reviewed.

- Attach a statement as to why you feel you are independent. Use a separate sheet of paper to explain why you feel you should not be considered a dependent of your parents for financial aid purposes. The statement should explain the situation in detail and include the following:
 - Identify the location of both of your parents.
 - Describe the last time you had contact with your parent(s) – when, where and the nature of the visit.
 - Describe the unusual circumstances that you feel make you an independent student.
 - Describe how you have been self supporting.

- Attach supporting documentation. Your supporting documentation should include **at least two (2)** third party letters from individuals who will not be biased on your behalf, but who have first-hand knowledge of your situation and who can present the facts related to your particular situation. This may include, but is not limited to court documents, letters from counselors, and members of the clergy or social workers.

- Attach signed federal tax return, W2(s), and any other documentation of income (taxed and untaxed).

C. Certification

By signing this form, I certify that the above information is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. If asked by an authorized official, I agree to give proof of the information provided on this form. I realize that giving false or misleading information may result in a \$10,000 fine, a prison sentence, or both (Higher Education Act, Sec. 490 (a)). I also understand that I may submit only one appeal per academic year, and that the decision of the Director/Coordinator of Financial Aid is final.

Student Signature

Date