This form is for dependent students who do not meet the federal criteria for “independent” status as outlined on the FAFSA, but who would like to have their unique family circumstances reviewed in order to be considered an independent student for financial aid purposes. Decisions of the Financial Aid Professional Judgment Appeals Committee are final.

Late submission of this appeal may result in a loss of federal aid if the deadline to process aid eligibility for the term has passed. Submit the appeal a minimum of 4-6 weeks before the start of the semester. Incomplete appeals will result in a delay in processing.

**EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

You may qualify for a dependency override if you are estranged due to abuse, family alcoholism, drug abuse or other unusual circumstances beyond your control. An objective third party must document your circumstances.

If you fall under one of the categories below, DO NOT complete this form. Complete the appropriate form from our website:

- **Orphan/Ward of the Court/Foster Care:** Complete the Orphan/Ward of Court/Foster Care Form
- **Emancipated Minor/Legal Guardianship:** Complete the Emancipated Minor and Legal Guardianship Form
- **Homeless or Unaccompanied Minor:** Complete the Unaccompanied Minor Form

**REQUIREMENTS TO SUBMIT**

1. **2015-16 FASFA,** which may be in a rejected status as a result of missing parent information

2. **ATTACH Personal Statement** which includes the following information:
   - Include a detailed explanation of your current relationship with each of your parents. If you are estranged, provide a detailed account of the circumstances, which led to the estrangement.
   - When was the last time you spoke with your parents?
   - Where are you living (do you live with someone other than your parents)?
   - How are you able to pay for living expenses such as rent, groceries and utilities?
   - Do you support yourself? If yes, what year did you begin supporting yourself?

3. **ATTACH Supporting Documentation** to substantiate the reasons for your dependency override request. For EXAMPLE:
   - Documentation to confirm that a parent is deceased, institutionalized, or incarcerated.
   - Documentation confirming a protection/restraining order that prohibits you from having contact with your parents.
   - Other legal documentation that explain why parent information should or cannot be obtained for your financial aid file.
   - **Two signed letters** verifying the reasons for your dependency override request. These letters should come from responsible adults, i.e. high school or college counselor, social service agency official, pastor or clergy member, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc. They must verify the family circumstances you described in your personal statement. If the letters are from an outside office/agency, they must be on official letterhead.

Note: You may be asked to supply verification of your income. Check Pipeline often for any new requirements.

**REQUIRED SIGNATURE:** I certify that the information I have provided on this form and on all documents is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree to provide proof supporting the information on this form as requested.

**Student Signature**  
**Date**

Print your Name and Student ID Number on All Documents - Return this form with all documents attached to:

**OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID** • The Welcome Center • P. O. Box 2340 • 42 West Warren • Detroit, MI 48202-0340