



## 2025-2026 Independent Documentation

*Last Name*

*First Name*

*M.I.*

*Social Security Number or ID Number*

Based on the answers to your 2025-2026 FAFSA application, we are requesting additional information to verify your independent status for financial aid. Please review and check the box, which most accurately reflects your current circumstances. Please attach the documentation requested for your specific circumstance.

**NOTE:** *If you have previously provided us with the documentation requested, please attach a signed letter explaining that your circumstances remain the same, and that we may refer to the documents that were previously submitted.*

Independent Circumstance	Explanation of Circumstance	Documentation Requested
<input type="checkbox"/> Orphan	At any time since age 13, you no longer have any living parent (biological or adoptive).	Provide a copy of parent’s death certificate(s).
<input type="checkbox"/> Foster Child	At any time since age 13, you were in foster care.	Provide legal court documentation showing that you were in foster care.
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward of the Court	At any time since age 13, you were a dependent or ward of the court.	Provide legal court documentation showing ward of court status.
<input type="checkbox"/> Emancipated Minor	If you are currently no longer in the custody of your parents or legal guardian.	Provide a copy of court documentation showing that you are an emancipated minor. The court order must still be in effect at the time you filed your FAFSA. Court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time it was issued.
<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardianship	If you are currently no longer in the custody of your biological parents and are in legal guardianship.	Provide a copy of court documentation showing that you are in <u>legal guardianship</u> . Court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time it was issued.
<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied/Homeless Youth	If a McKinney-Vento School District Liaison, Director or Designee of a HUD funded shelter, or Director or Designee of a RHYA funded shelter determined that you were homeless or at the risk of being a homeless youth.	Provide documentation <u>on business letterhead</u> from one of the following, explaining your current living situation.  <i>McKinney-Vento School District Liaison Director or Designee of a HUD shelter Director or Designee of RHYA shelter.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> None of The Above	If you do not meet any of the independent circumstances listed above, and cannot provide documentation supporting your independence.	You must update your FAFSA to include your parent’s information and signature. Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you need assistance.

**By signing this worksheet, I certify that all the information reported on this worksheet is complete and accurate. I also understand that I must attach the documentation requested above, or I will not qualify as an independent student for financial aid purposes.**

*Student’s Signature* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date* \_\_\_\_\_