



VALIDATION OF INDEPENDENCY 2026-2027

Student Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Student ID# or Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

When you completed the FAFSA you answered yes to one or more questions which may mean you do not have to provide parental information on your FAFSA. You are required to provide supporting documentation of your answers in order to qualify for federal financial aid without reporting parental information. Please complete the form as indicated, attach the documentation as instructed, and return this form along with the required documentation to this office.

- ☐ **At any time since I turned 13, I have been an orphan; both of my parents are deceased.**
Provide copies of death certificates, obituaries, or other official documents which confirm death.
- ☐ **At any time since I turned 13, I have been in foster care.**
Provide a copy of court or social service agency (Dept. of Human Services) documentation of your time in foster care.
- ☐ **At any time since I turned 13, I am or was dependent of ward of the court.**
Provide a copy of court documentation. Please note: Incarceration of a student does not qualify for ward of court for financial aid purposes.
- ☐ **As of today, I am an emancipated minor as determined by a court in my state of residence.**
Provide a copy of court documentation in the state of your legal residence.
- ☐ **As of today, I am in legal guardianship as determined by a court of my state of legal residence.**
Provide a copy of court documentation in the state of your legal residence.

Please review the definition of homeless and unaccompanied youth below before answering these questions:

Homeless: lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, motels or cars, or temporarily living with people because you had nowhere else to go.

Unaccompanied youth: as of the day you signed the financial aid application you were not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian AND you are 21 years of age or younger or you were still enrolled in high school.

At any time, on or after July 1, 2026, I received a determination that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless. **This determination was made by:**

- ☐ **High school or school district homeless liaison**
Provide documentation indicating the determination.
- ☐ **Director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the US Department of Housing or Urban Development**
Provide documentation indicating the determination.
- ☐ **Director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center of transitional living program**
Provide documentation indicating the determination.

I certify that all information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and have provided the documentation requested to verify the information provided on this form. I understand I may be required to provide additional documentation to support this request. **THE PENALTY FOR SUBMISSION OF FRAUDULENT INFORMATION ON THIS FORM MAY INCLUDE REPAYMENT OF MONEY RECEIVED, PLUS A FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT.**

Student Signature

Date