

DEPOVR22

DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE APPEAL FORM 2021-2022

Student's First Name:	UMMC ID (i.e. 300123456)
Student's Last Name:	UMMC Email:

The Financial Aid Office (FAO) recognizes that students may have extenuating family circumstances that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) does not consider. This form is for dependent students who **do not** meet the federal criteria for "independency" status as outlined on the 2021-2022 FAFSA, but who would like to have their unique circumstances reviewed in order to be considered an independent student for financial aid purposes.

Students who are estranged from their parents due to **extenuating or unusual circumstances** (i.e. abuse, family alcoholism, drug abuse, etc.) which can be documented by an objective third party (i.e. high school or college counselor, social service agency official, pastor or clergy member, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.) may qualify. **All appeal decisions are FINAL.**

STUDENTS WHO SHOULD NOT COMPLETE THIS FORM
The following circumstances are not considered viable reasons for independent status:

- You do not reside with your parents.
- Your parents refuse to pay for your college education.
- Your parents do not claim you on their tax return.
- Your parents are not financially able to pay for your college education.
- You were married after you applied for financial aid.
- You do not want your parent's assistance to pay for college.

If you fall under one of the categories below, DO NOT complete this form. Complete the appropriate form as outlined below:

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

These forms are available in the FAO and on the FAO website at <http://financialaid.umc.edu/forms.html>

Note: Many financial aid programs have specific deadlines, in which late submission of this appeal may result in a denial as the deadline to process aid eligibility has passed. Please submit the appeal a minimum of 4-6 weeks prior to the start of the semester for which you are requesting a review of your eligibility. **Incomplete appeals will result in a delay in processing time.**

REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

1. FAO must have your 2021-2022 FASFA on file.
2. Submit a completed 2021-2022 Verification Worksheet, which is available from FAO and on the FAO website at http://financialaid.umc.edu/student_financial_aid/documents/VerificationProcedures.html
3. Submit a 2019 IRS Tax Transcript (not an Account Transcript) which can be obtained at www.irs.gov or by calling the IRS at 800-908-9946 **OR** use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to transfer your 2019 tax data to the FAFSA and made no changes to the information.
4. Submit a personal statement with this appeal, explaining the circumstances of your current family situation. Your personal statement must include the following information:

A detailed explanation of your current relationship with each of your parents. If you are estranged from your parents, 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?
5. Submit supporting documentation to substantiate the reasons for your dependency override request. This documentation may include, but is not limited to:
 - Documentation to confirm that a parent is deceased, institutionalized, or incarcerated.
 - Documentation confirming that there is a protection/restraining order that prohibits you from having contact with your parents.
 - Other legal documentation that would 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. At least one statement must be from a professional person (i.e. high school or college counselor, social service agency official, pastor or clergy member, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.) who are able to verify the family circumstances you described in your personal statement.
The statement must be on official letterhead and include:
 - a. The length of time the person has known you
 - b. How the person is aware of your situation
 - c. Why the parental information is not available
 - d. To the person's knowledge, you do not receive parental support

If the letter is not on letterhead, it must be notarized. Copies of appropriate court documents are acceptable in lieu of these statements.

If you have previously submitted this information to the FAO and your circumstances have not changed, it is not necessary to do so again.

Check this box if previously submitted and you affirm that your circumstances are unchanged.

Required Signature

I certify that all information reported on this form is true, complete and accurate.

I understand that any false statements or misrepresentation will be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal and/or repayment of financial aid.

Student's Signature _____

Date _____