



OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

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REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT STATUS (2023-2024 Academic Year)



Scan the code on your phone and follow instructions to upload this document to CCC.

CCC ID#		Last Name		First Name		MI
Mailing Address				City	ST	Zip Code
Phone # (include area code)		CCC Student Email Address @students.coconino.edu				

This appeal aims to evaluate students who do not meet the Independency criteria on the FAFSA but believe they should be considered independent due to unusual circumstances.

Examples of unusual circumstances:

- A documented case of abuse in the household confirmed by police, court, counselor, or medical records
- Parents deemed unfit to care for the student as documented by police, court, counselor, or medical records
- The student was legally removed from the parent's home as documented by police, court, or counselor records
- One parent is deceased or incarcerated and the other parent abandoned the student and has no contact

Examples of circumstances that are not criteria for approval:

- The student lives in a separate place from the parents
- Parents do not claim the student on their taxes
- Parents refuse to help pay for student's education
- The student has sufficient income to pay their bills
- The student doesn't talk to their parents or get along with them
- Parents refuse to complete their portion of the FAFSA
- Student voluntarily left parent's home
- Parents live in another country (unless the student is a refugee)

Provide the following five items of documentation with this appeal (Appeals without documentation will be denied):

- A letter written by you, the student explaining:
 - The events which led to separation from parents.
 - How the student supports themselves and how long has the student supported themselves.
 - List all support received (money, housing, food, insurance, cell phone, etc.) and who provides it.
- Third-party substantiating documentation (one or both of the following):
 - Copies of police, court, or medical records about the situation.
 - A signed and dated letter from a professional (clergy, counselor, teacher, etc.) on letterhead that substantiates the situation. *A letter from a friend or family member is generally not acceptable.*
- Copy of the student's 2021 Tax Return Transcript (if the student filed taxes in 2021)
- Copy of the student's 2021 Verification of non-filing from the IRS (if the student did not file taxes in 2021)
- Copy of the student's 2021 W-2s (if the student worked in 2021)
- Independent Verification Worksheet

If you were approved to be an Independent student in the 2022-2023 academic year at CCC please check one of the following:

- The unusual circumstances under which I was granted Independency status in 2022-2023 have not changed. (Skip items 1 & 2 above. Complete items 3-6)
- My circumstances have changed. Please attach documentation of changes along with a personal letter of explanation. (Complete steps 1-6 above)

Allow 2 weeks after this appeal is submitted for a decision. If a decision has not been made on your appeal by the payment deadline, you must make a payment or sign up for the College Payment Plan; or your classes will be dropped for non-payment.

I certify that information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. Purposely giving false or misleading information may result in a delay or denial of my federal financial aid and I may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both. I hereby provide consent for the use of electronic records and signatures on all financial aid documents. I understand that if I choose to sign electronically, my electronic signature constitutes a binding contract and may not be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability solely because it is in electronic form or because an electronic signature or electronic record was used in its formation.

Draw your signature with a mouse, touchscreen, or pen. Do not type

Date

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