

Dependency Override Appeal

Student Information/Resource Statement
2021 – 2022 Academic Year

STUDENT ID #: _____

For Office Use Only

Please print clearly. Do not leave any item blank.

Student Name: _____ Student ID# _____
Last First MI

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. Student Statement (Required) - Your statement must explain the separation from your parents and include:

- Your current relationship with your parents
- The last date of contact with each parent and the frequency of contact over the last 3 years, minimum
- Specific dates of events that caused your separation from your parents
- Your sources of income and how you have supported yourself while living apart from your parents
- Must include your name, signature by hand, and date in the letter.

2. Professional Supporting Letter (Required) - One original letter from a professional individual documenting their first-hand knowledge of the special circumstances. The letter must:

- Be on letterhead of the business or organization. If letterhead is not obtainable, the individual must provide a notarized letter including their name, signature by hand, business/organization, title, phone, email, address and date.
- Be detailed and refer to actual events—they should not be reiterations of events you have shared, but should reflect the writer's direct knowledge. Also, the relationship between the professional and the student should be stated.
- Professional individuals may include, but not limited to: a counselor, physicians, clergy, police, agency official, etc.

3. Personal Supporting Letter (Required) - One original letter from someone who can verify their first-hand knowledge of the special circumstances. The letter must:

- Be notarized.
- Be detailed and refer to actual events—they should not be reiterations of events you have shared, but should reflect the writer's direct knowledge. The relationship between the individual and the student must be stated.
- Must include the individual's name, address, phone, email, date and signature by hand.
- A second Professional Supporting Letter will also meet this requirement as long as it is from a different person. The second Professional Supporting Letter would not need to be notarized.

4. Supporting Documents - If you have additional supporting documents, please include them with your appeal form. Such documents include but doesn't limit to: social agency reports, court decree, medical records, visa, etc.

Student Certification: I certify that the information provided on this appeal and attached documents is true, complete, and accurate. I understand that purposefully providing false information could result in a reduction and/or repayment of aid, and/or denial of future appeals in this and future years.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

If your signature is typed you must upload it into the Secure Uploader at www.saintpaul.edu/faforms

For Financial Aid Office Use Only:

Outcome: Eligible for Dependency Override
 Not eligible for Dependency Override

Corrections Entered CPS On-line: _____

Comments:

Financial Aid Authorization: _____ Date: _____

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The Federal Student Aid Programs determines a student's status as dependent or independent by the answers the student provides on the thirteen questions listed in Step 3 of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students are classified as dependent or independent because federal student aid programs are based on the principle that students (and their parents or spouse) are considered the primary source of support for postsecondary education. The Dependency Override process is used to address on a case-by-case basis a student who claims to be independent but does not meet the federal criteria. The student must demonstrate a unique and extenuating circumstance.

The following provides information and explains the procedure used to determine a student's eligibility for a "Dependency Override". A Financial Aid Administrator will review the student's appeal by examining the supporting documentation provided by the student and will either approve or deny the student's request and notify the student in writing. This decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.

If appeal is approved:

We will notify you via email. Your financial aid will then be packaged based on independent status. Additional documents may be needed because of corrections to your account. You should check your Saint Paul College email to see if you have a new status letter on your eServices account.

If your appeal is denied:

We will notify you via email. In order to receive a financial aid award, you will be required to provide parent financial information and parent signatures on your 2021-2022 FAFSA. All decisions on dependency overrides are made based on Professional Judgment by the Financial Aid Office at Saint Paul College. All decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

THE FOLLOWING IS NOT CONSIDERED A UNIQUE AND EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE

- Self-sufficiency of the student.
- Not residing at the parent's residence.
- Parent's unwillingness to complete the parent section of the FAFSA.
- Not being claimed as a dependent on your parent's tax return.
- Student's desire for grants instead of loans.

CIRCUMSTANCES GIVEN CONSIDERATION WHERE PARENTAL SUPPORT HAS BEEN TERMINATED

- A student's voluntary or involuntary removal from their parent's home due to an extreme situation that threatened the student's health or safety.
- Incapacity of parent(s) such as incarceration, mental/physical illness or the inability of the applicant to locate the parent(s).
- Other extenuating circumstances that can be sufficiently documented.