

**Texas College**  
**2011 – 2012 Request for Dependency Change**

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

The Office of Financial Aid is required by federal law to consider parental contribution for students applying for federal financial aid unless the student meets one of the conditions allowed on the 2011-2012 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

A financial aid administrator may override a student's dependency status because of circumstances that exist in the family, which cause parents to be unable to assist the dependent student with his/her education expenses.

The Department of Education has interpreted the phrase 'other unusual circumstances' in section 480(d)(7) to mean unusual circumstances that make it inappropriate to expect a parental contribution for the student. 'Unusual circumstances' could include, but are not limited to:

1. Estrangement (students asked to move out of the house)
2. Abandonment by parents (i.e. no contact for one year and no support for at least one year);
3. Incarceration of parents;
4. Death of parents or custodial parent(s); or
5. Unstable living conditions (Physical, sexual, mental abuse, victim of domestic violence)

The following circumstances **do not** merit a dependency override:

1. Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education;
2. Parents are unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification;
3. Parents do not claim the student as dependent for income tax purposes; or
4. Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency

The law also requires that a determination of unusual circumstance(s) be made each award year. A determination of independence in one year does not mean that the student would automatically be an independent student in a subsequent award year. The financial aid administrator must affirm in the subsequent year that the conditions for determining the student to be independent continue to exist.

If you believe you have an unusual circumstance that should make you independent of your parents, you are **REQUIRED** to complete the following:

- "Request for Dependency Change Information" form. Must be complete and signed.
- Personal Notarized Statement. A statement explaining your extenuating circumstances, what has caused you to become independent from your parents, when you became independent and how you have provided for your necessities (shelter, food, clothing, transportation, medical care, etc.).
- Notarized Statement from Professional. A letter from a guidance counselor, physician, social worker, clergy, or individuals who have been involved in the circumstances in a professional capacity.
- Other Notarized Statements: Two notarized statements from third parties (aunt, uncle, siblings, grandparents, friend, etc.) who personally have knowledge of your situation and who can verify your circumstances.
- Paper FAFSA – Attach your completed and signed FAFSA (available in the Office of Financial Aid), if you have not already submitted it to the federal processor. **If you have already filed your 2011-2012 FAFSA, check this box** .
- 2010 Income Tax Return

**Request for review or evaluation will not be done unless all of the above is provided as a package.**

**2011 - 2012**  
**Request for Dependency Change Student Information**

1. Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long have you resided at this address: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Does anyone live with you?  Yes  No
5. This property is owned by: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is this person a relative?  Yes  No  
If yes, what relationship? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you been in contact with your parents during the past 12 months?  
Father: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ If yes, when and what was the nature of the contact? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Mother: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ If yes, when and what was the nature of the contact? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Did you live with any parent during the 2010 calendar year?  Yes  No  
If yes, on what date did you move out: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Have you received any financial support from your parents in the last 12 months, including money, gifts, payment of bills, insurance, etc.?  
Father: Yes  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ No  Mother: Yes  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ No
10. Did anyone claim you on their 2010 tax return? Yes  No  If yes, who? \_\_\_\_\_  
If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

You must provide the following documents with this Dependency Change Request:

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Personal Notarized Statement                           | 5. Current Lease or Housing Agreement |
| 2. Two Other Notarized Statement                          | 6. 2010 Income Tax Return             |
| 3. Professional Notarized Statement                       | 7. 2011-2012 Paper FAFSA              |
| 4. Low Income Form (if student did not file a tax return) |                                       |

**CERTIFICATION.** I certify that the above information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that any misleading information would require that I repay any funding received, and could jeopardize any further Title IV eligibility.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Aid Office Use Only**

Financial Aid Administrator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks/Reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_