California State University Bakersfield

Dependency Override Appeal

A financial aid administrator has the discretion to use professional judgement on a case-by-case basis to determine that unusual circumstances warrant making a dependent student an independent student.

Unusual circumstances do include:

- Human trafficking, as described in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.);
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status;
- Parental abandonment or estrangement;
- Abuse;
- Student or parental incarceration; or
- Homeless Youth

Please be aware that the following circumstances **DO NOT QUALIFY** for a dependency override.

- Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education or unwilling to provide information;
- Parents will not provide information for the FAFSA or verification;
- Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes;
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency;
- Parents live in another country.

Student Forms student view:
You can request to open an appeal or upload a specific document or close the request if you no longer wish to proceed. If you are unsure which award year to choose for a request, please confirm with your school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request Type</th>
<th>2023-2024</th>
<th>2022-2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dependency Appeal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Contribution Appeal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Attendance Appeal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Click the blue +
Dependency Appeal -- 2023-2024

You indicated on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that you have unusual circumstances that prevent you from providing parental information. This Web Form allows you to request a dependency status change from dependent to independent due to unusual circumstances. The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships shall review your case upon successful completion and submission of the Web Form.

Please explain your reason for this request.

Provide a very brief reason for the request. Example-I was in an abusive environment.

Click submit

Click on the Needs Action box

Enter your comments...

Characters left: 255/255
Click the Fill Out button

Read the directions then click Continue.

Fill out demographic information then click Continue.
Choose which circumstance fits your situation then click Continue.

Provide a detailed explanation of your situation and click on will provide supporting documentation then click Continue.

- **E-Sign PIN**
  - Forgot your E-Sign PIN? 🔄
  - Opt out of E-Sign 🔄 NO

Either E-Sign or Opt out of E-Sign.
Please allow up to two weeks before your appeal is reviewed.

Click Upload to upload your supporting documentation

After you have uploaded your documentation you need to click Submit

Final step is to click Finish