

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:

Click the request
button +



Needs Action

You're all caught up right now.

Manage Requests

Manage Requests



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.

Request Type	2023-2024	2022-2023
Dependency Appeal		
Family Contribution Appeal		
Cost of Attendance Appeal		

Click the blue +

Close



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.

Enter your comments...

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

Click submit

Characters left: 255/255

Submit

Go Back

Click on the Needs Action box

Needs Action

1 Task Left	2023-2024 Dependency Appeal	
	Status: Collecting Documents	
	Needs Action	1
	Submitted	0

Manage Requests

Click the Fill Out button

2023 - 2024 Dependency Appeal

Below is the list of items the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships needs you to complete for the professional judgment appeal process. Click on any section to view the detailed list of requirements.

▼ PJ Dependency Override Appeal

To continue with your Professional Judgment (PJ) Dependency Override appeal you must complete the PJ Dependency Override Appeal web form.

test

Appeal Status: Open

PJ Dependency Override Appeal Web Form ⓘ

Fill Out

Submit

Read the directions then click Continue.

2023/2024 PJ Dependency Override Appeal

Instructions
Demographics
Special Circumstances
Statement
Review & Sign

Return to Student Tasks

Instructions

Students who do not meet the federal definition of an independent student, but who meet one of the following extraordinary circumstances, may submit this appeal for a **Dependency Override**. Such overrides are determined on a case-by-case basis.

A. The following circumstances may **QUALIFY** a student for a Dependency override.

- **Abuse:** The student had to leave the home for their own safety and/or health, due to an abusive situation
- **Abandonment:** The student was completely abandoned by their parents, or the inability of the student to locate their parents. (for example, the student has been raised by their grandparents or another relative and has had no contact or support from their parents)
- **Homeless Youth:** Unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless (Not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian and lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing) Please contact the Office of Financial Aid for additional information or if you have questions.

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

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

B. **Dependency Override Renewal** (only if the Dependency Override was completed by CSU, Bakersfield). Please select the option that confirms the unique circumstances approved in prior year by our office.

Continue →

Fill out demographic information then click Continue

2023/2024 PJ Dependency Override Appeal

Instructions
Demographics
Special Circumstances
Statement
Review & Sign

Return to Student Tasks

Demographics

Please correct the following information if needed.

* First Name:

Error: * Required

* Last Name:

Error: * Required

* Phone:

Error: * Required

← Back

Continue →

Choose which circumstance fits your situation then click Continue

2023/2024 PJ Dependency Override Appeal

Instructions
Demographics
> Special Circumstances
Statement
Review & Sign

Return to Student Tasks

Special Circumstances

Below are the special circumstance(s) that have been chosen by your institution. Please only modify if you are absolutely certain of your changes.

- Your parents are incarcerated
- You left home due to an abusive family environment
- You do not know where your parents are and you are unable to contact them
- You are older than 21 but not 24 and unaccompanied and either homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless
- Dependency Override Renewal, only if the Dependency Override was completed by CSU, Bakersfield in a prior year and your unique circumstances have not changed.

Back Continue

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

2023/2024 PJ Dependency Override Appeal

Instructions
Demographics
> Special Circumstances
Statement
Review & Sign

Return to Student Tasks

Statement

Instructions

A) If you are appealing for the first time, you **must** complete the following steps:

1. Provide an explanation outlining your extraordinary family circumstances that support your petition for Independent status.
2. In addition, please check the box below indicating that you "will provide supporting documentation."

- Upload a signed and dated letter from a counselor or teacher, community group or clergyman, government agency, law enforcement officer, medical personnel, court or prison administrator who has direct personal knowledge of your situation; or
- Upload any other supporting documentation, such as a signed and dated letter from relatives or friends, a police report and/or medical report.

B) If you were approved for a Dependency Override in a prior academic year, complete the following steps.

1. In the text box below, certify that your circumstances, which prevented you from providing parental information on the FAFSA, have not changed since the original documents were submitted. (If there is a change, please attach supporting documentation detailing the changes).

test

Required: Enter your statement...

I will provide supporting documentation.

Back Continue

* E-Sign PIN

Forgot your E-Sign PIN? ?

Opt out of E-Sign ?

 NO

Either E-Sign or Opt out of E-Sign

E-Sign

Click Upload to upload your supporting documentation

PJ Dependency Override Appeal

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test

Appeal Status: Open

PJ Dependency Override Appeal Web Form

Download	Date Filled Out
PJ_Dependency_Override_Form.pdf	04/25/2023

Upload Supporting Documentation

After you have uploaded your documentation you need to click Submit

2023 - 2024 Dependency Appeal

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PJ Dependency Override Appeal

To continue with your Professional Judgment (PJ) Dependency Override appeal you must complete the PJ Dependency Override Appeal web form.

test

Appeal Status: Open

PJ Dependency Override Appeal Web Form

Download	Date Filled Out
PJ_Dependency_Override_Form.pdf	04/25/2023

Upload Supporting Documentation

Filename	Date Uploaded
LQJ screen shot for CL.pdf	04/25/2023

Final step is to click Finish

2023 - 2024 Dependency Appeal

After you click finish you will be prevented from making further changes while your files are being reviewed.

PJ Dependency Override Appeal

Please allow up to two weeks before your appeal is reviewed.