

These special circumstances below apply to students applying for a Dependency Override. These special circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by case basis to determine how the individual student situation is sufficient to warrant a change in a student's dependency status. Each case must be reviewed and approved by the Ross Leadership Team.

CHECK ONE:

I am requesting a Dependency Override based on abandonment, abuse, neglect, permanent estrangement from my parents or other extenuating circumstances.

Documentation Required: 3 Letters explaining in detail with dates and the situation at hand that support an unusual circumstance.

1. Your letter
 - a. Your own personal account of your extenuating circumstance
 - b. Be sure to include a timeline and details that you are comfortable sharing
 - c. Please include any of the following that apply:
 - i. An explanation of the extraordinary family circumstances that led you to leaving your parents household
 - ii. Your past relationship with both parents
 - iii. Your present relationship with both of your parents
 - iv. Dates you had last contact with your parents
 - v. How you are supporting yourself
2. Professional letter
 - a. Find a non-biased third party person who is knowledge of your unusual circumstances
 - b. A third party professional letter could be a teacher, counselor, medical authority, member of the clergy, prison administrator, social worker, other government agency, or court. This could also be an official court ordered.
 - c. Have them include the following:
 - i. A formal letter on letterhead
 - ii. Include the nature of how they know you and how long
 - iii. Explain from their perspective your situation and circumstances surrounding both parent
 - iv. Signature and date
3. Family member letter
 - a. Choose a family member who can write a signed statement that displays their knowledge of the circumstances and timeline.

Please keep in mind that the government does no singly or in combination consider the following to be an "extenuating circumstances" to be an independent student. If you are unsure please reach out to your FA Specialist.

- 1. Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education.**
- 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. Students demonstrate total self-sufficiency.**

Student Explanation of Circumstances:

Student Certification: The above statement is true and I will provide additional documentation if I am asked to do so. If I fail to provide the requested documentation, I understand my request may not be processed.

- I understand that requesting a dependency override to exclude parents from my FAFSA solely due to extenuating circumstances outside of my control.
- I understand that simply being self-sufficient and supporting my own college is not reason enough to qualify for a dependency override.
- I understand that the government requires sufficient documentation in order to qualify for this professional judgment change by my FAFSA administrators at Ross.
- I understand that submitting these documents does not guarantee approval of the dependency override.
- I agree that parents do not pay for any of my insurance, housing or personal needs.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE