



Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

Office of Student Financial Assistance

Dependency Override Request

Name: _____ Student ID #: _____

Have you already filed a FAFSA? Yes ☐ No ☐

Students **under the age of 24** who wish to be considered independent for federal financial aid purposes must complete this form by selecting the circumstance(s) that apply and providing all required supporting documentation.

According to the U.S. Department of Education regulation HEA Sec 480(d) (7) the following circumstances do not qualify:

- Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education.
- Parents are unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification.
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.

☐ **I come from a dysfunctional family situation.** The dysfunction is a result of physical or emotional abuse, drug or alcohol abuse or other situation that makes it impossible to live with and/or be supported by your parents.

Required documentation:

- A signed statement from you describing your family situation and how you or someone else is supporting you.
- A notarized statement from a professional (e.g. counselor, minister, social worker, teacher, etc.) who is familiar and can verify your family situation.
- A signed statement from a friend or family member who is familiar with and can verify your family situation.
- Any court or police records to support your family situation.
- Bills i.e.: car payment, insurance, and/or lease agreement.

☐ **My custodial parent has died and I do not have any contact with the other birth/adoptive parent.**

Required documentation:

- A signed statement from you describing your relationship with your other birth/adoptive parent.
- A notarized statement from a person who is familiar with and can verify you have no contact with your other birth/adoptive parent.
- A death certificate of the deceased birth/adoptive parent.



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☐ My court appointed legal guardian is not my birth/adoptive parent.

Required documentation:

- A copy of the court record appointing your legal guardian showing who the guardian is, when the guardianship was granted, and when that guardianship is set to expire.

☐ I am under 24 and divorced with no dependents.

Required documentation:

- A signed statement from you as to how you support yourself or who is supporting you.
- A notarized statement from your parent(s) that they have not provided financial support to you since your divorce.
- A copy of the divorce decree.
- Signed copies of your federal tax returns.

By signing this form I certify that all information and documentation is correct and accurate. I also understand that the approval of a dependency override is not guaranteed, is at the discretion of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, and is final.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

This document may be submitted to the Office of Student Financial Assistance only via [SHUAwards](#) (Menu > My Documents > Upload it now!), secure fax, mail, or in-person as it contains personally identifiable information.

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