Proof of Independent Status

Overview

Your 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) indicates you are an independent student under the age of 24. Before the Office of Financial Aid can disburse federal/state financial aid to your account, we must verify that you are truly independent as defined by the Department of Education. Review the section below and turn your documentation in to the Office of Financial Aid.

Acceptable Documentation

Please submit the documentation appropriate for your circumstance. The required documentation is listed under the applicable circumstance.

- I am married
  - Marriage License

- I am on active duty or I am a veteran of the US Armed Forces
  - Active Duty: an original statement of service signed by, or by direction of, the adjutant, personnel officer, or commander of your unit or higher headquarters which identifies you and your social security number
  - Veterans: DD Form 214

- I have (or will have) children or legal dependents I support
  - Mortgage or Rental Agreement in your name
  - Signed 2017 Tax Return (if taxes were filed)
  - Any additional documentation showing you are or will be the primary provider for your children or legal dependent(s)

- I do not have any living parents and was not adopted before the age of 13
  - Death Certificate for each parent
  - Your birth certificate

- I was in the foster care system after the age of 13
  - Official court documentation or statement from a county/private welfare agency showing you were in the foster care system

- I was a ward of the court after the age of 13
  - Official court documentation showing you were a ward of the court

- I was an emancipated minor
  - Official court documentation showing you were an emancipated minor

- I was in legal guardianship
  - Official court documentation showing you were in legal guardianship

- I am an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of being homeless
  - Letter from a district homeless liaison, the director of an emergency shelter, or the director of a runaway, homeless youth, or transitional living program

If you are unable to obtain the documentation listed above, please contact the Office of Financial Aid.