



2026-2027
Dependency Override Appeal Form

Student Name MSU Net ID 9 MSU ID (9 digit) _____

Under Federal law your family is primarily responsible for paying for your college expenses. In **very** limited situations Federal law may allow us to consider a dependent student independent (for financial aid purposes) when unusual conditions exist. Extenuating circumstances typically involve documented cases of a breakdown in your family structure as a result of abuse, abandonment, and/or neglect.

Please note that federal guidelines **do not** consider the following as valid circumstances for an override of dependent status:

- You do not live with your parents, or you are self-sufficient; or
- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- Your parents are unwilling to provide information on your FAFSA, or do not claim you as a tax exemption.

Required Documentation	
1) 2026-2027 MSU Dependency Override Form	Download, complete, and sign requested 2026-27 forms at https://www.sfa.msstate.edu/forms/
2) 2026-2027 MSU Family Size Verification Form	
3) Student <u>SIGNED</u> letter of explanation	Explain your request to be considered independent. Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Details of your appeal reason and date(s) situation occurred- Your relationship with both of your biological/adoptive parents- Last date of parent contact and location of your parents- Where you reside and how you are supporting yourself
4) Documentation of how you support yourself	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Signed 2024 tax return, current paycheck stub, etc.- If you did not file a 2024 tax return, must complete MSU 2627 Nontax Filer form (attach applicable W-2 forms).- https://www.sfa.msstate.edu/forms/
5) Minimum of two signed and dated letters from third-party individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agency references such as law enforcement, guidance counselor, social worker, clergy, teacher, etc., (include copy of court records, police reports, incarceration record, etc.)- Personal references must explain how they know you, length of time they have known you, and how they are aware of your situation. If this is a family member, you must include two non-family member signed letters.- If your appeal is due to parent death:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Provide a copy of student's birth certificate andb) Copy of parent's death certificate or full obituaryc) We would not need third-party statements for death

Certification Statement

Person signing below certifies that all information reported is complete and accurate. Student must sign and date below.
Warning: Purposely giving false or misleading information may result in a fine, imprisonment, or both.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____
Pen to paper, handwritten signature ONLY. No electronic signature