



## 2022-2023 Dependency Override Appeal

9

Student's Name

Student's MSU Net ID

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 as independent (for financial aid purposes) when unusual conditions exist. Please note: **\*\*Appeals cannot be processed until we receive ALL requested documents.**

Examples of unusual conditions where you may be unable to provide parental data include:

- Your parents are incarcerated; or
- You have left home due to an abusive family environment; or
- You do not know your parent's location, are unable to contact them, and you are not adopted.

Not all situations are considered unusual. The following would **not** be considered valid situations:

- 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 do not claim you (the student) as an exemption on their income taxes.

**\*\*Verification of your FAFSA information must be completed before adjustments can be made. Regularly check your Eligibility Requirements on your MSU myState and your MSU email address to see documents requested and/or if you need to submit additional documentation.**

If you have had a Dependency Override approved for the previous award year, read and complete Section B.

### Section A: New Dependency Override Appeal:

Please read the information below to see if any of the situations listed apply to you. We must receive ALL documentation requested before the appeal can be considered.

**Submit the following for your dependency override appeal:**

- 1) 2022-2023 Dependency Override Form
- 2) Signed personal statement: Detail appeal reason (include specific information and dates the situation occurred)
- 3) 2022-2023 Household Verification Form
- 4) 2020 IRS Federal Income Tax Return **Transcript** (<http://www.irs.gov>) or a signed copy of the 2020 Tax Return with all applicable schedules; **OR**
  - If you did not file 2020 taxes, request a 2020 IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter (<http://www.irs.gov>) and provide us with a copy, along with a completed 2022-2023 MSU Independent Student Nontax Filer Form

### Dependency Override Appeal Situations with Additional Documentation Requested

1. **Death of One parent; or Custodial parent**, and no contact with non-custodial parent:
  - Copy of death certificate or obituary
  - Copy of student's birth certificate
  - Minimum of two detailed, **signed** letters (\*\* See next page for details about letters.)

- Acceptable letters are:
  - Professional references must be signed, dated and listed on agency letterhead
    - Law enforcement, guidance counselor, social worker, clergy, teacher, etc.
  - Personal references (non-family) must be signed, dated and **notarized**
    - These letters must include how the person knows the student, how long they have known the student, and how long they have known about the student's circumstances.

**2. You no longer live with your parents due to unsafe home environment may be due to abuse: Physical/Emotional/Drug/Alcohol**

- Minimum of two detailed, **signed** letters
- Acceptable letters are:
  - Professional references must be signed, dated and listed on agency letterhead
    - Law enforcement, guidance counselor, social worker, clergy, teacher, etc.
  - Personal references (non-family) must be signed, dated and **notarized**
    - These letters must include how the person knows the student, how long they have known the student, and how long they have known about the student's circumstances.

**3. You no longer live with your parents may be due to: Abandonment; or Incarceration/Mental incapacity; or Estrangement**

- Minimum of two detailed, **signed** letters
- Acceptable letters are:
  - Professional references must be signed, dated and listed on agency letterhead
    - Law enforcement, guidance counselor, social worker, clergy, teacher, etc.
  - Personal references (non-family) must be signed, dated and **notarized**
    - These letters must include how the person knows the student, how long they have known the student, and how long they have known about the student's circumstances.

**Section B: Update on Prior Dependency Override Appeal Approval:**

Submit the following for your update on your prior dependency override appeal:

- 1) 2022-2023 Dependency Override Form (must complete new form annually)
- 2) 2022-2023 Household Verification Form
- 3) 2020 IRS Federal Income Tax Return **Transcript** (<http://www.irs.gov>) or a signed copy of the 2020 Tax Return with all applicable schedules; **OR**
  - a. If you did not file 2020 taxes, request a 2020 IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter (<http://www.irs.gov>). Provide us with a copy, along with a completed 2022-2023 MSU Independent Student Nontax Filer Form
- 4) Submit **additional** documentation as specified below.
  - A. Signed personal statement:
    - a) **Updating** us on the nature of your situation (for which the appeal was approved)
    - b) Indicate the **current status** (ex. situation is unchanged, reconciliation has occurred, etc.)

**Signature** (Note: Signatures **MUST BE HANDWRITTEN**; electronic signatures will not be accepted.)

By signing this form, I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the best of my knowledge.

**Warning: Purposely giving false or misleading information may result in a fine, imprisonment, or both.**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_