

## 2017-18 REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DEPENDENCY STATUS

Dependency status for financial aid is established by the U.S. Department of Education. Federal regulations require a student's family to take primary responsibility for providing for educational costs. Financial aid eligibility is determined by using both the student and parent financial information for students who are considered dependent according to the federal government. Dependent students are required to provide parental information. Occasionally, due to extraordinary circumstances, students cannot obtain the parental information required. If this is your situation, you have the option to appeal this federal regulation by providing the following information as requested.

**The following are not considered unusual or extenuating circumstances:**

- You do not live in your parents' home
- You are self-supporting
- You are not claimed as a federal income tax exemption on your parents' income tax return
- Your parents cannot afford or refuse to help with college or living expenses
- Your parents are unwilling to provide their financial information to complete the FAFSA

### SECTION I. STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ WVU ID: \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION II. DOCUMENTATION

**Attach** the following documentation:

- A typed and signed explanation of your exceptional circumstance. Your statement should include an explanation of why you cannot obtain parental information, your relationship with your biological and/or legally adoptive parents, where you have lived since separating from your parents, and how you have supported yourself while living apart from your parents.
- Two detailed, signed statements from third parties who have knowledge of your circumstances and can verify your statement. The third parties' statements must be on official letterhead if applicable and must include contact information such as phone number and/or email address as well as explanation of their relationship to you. Acceptable third parties include teachers, counselors, medical authorities, clergy, prison administrators, government agencies, or court representatives.
- Other documentation supporting your circumstances.

**Appeals submitted without the required documentation listed above cannot be considered. If you are approved for a dependency appeal, your dependency status must be reevaluated each year until you meet the federal criteria for being considered an independent student automatically.**

### SECTION III. INCOME INFORMATION

**1) Did you or will you file a 2015 Federal Tax Return?**

- Yes – **attach** a copy of your 2015 Federal Tax Return Transcript     No

**2) Did someone else claim you as an exemption on their taxes in 2015? If so, **attach** their 2015 Federal Tax Return Transcript and provide their name and relationship to you.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

WVU ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION IV. HOUSING INFORMATION**

**1) Where do/will you reside when classes are in session?**

- University housing
- Rented property – **attach** a copy of the **first and last page** of your signed lease or a statement from the landlord and at least one canceled check or receipt (if available)
- With a relative other than parent - **attach** a statement from the relative(s) indicating any financial arrangements
- Other – specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**2) Where do/will you reside during periods when classes are not in session?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION V. OTHER INFORMATION**

**1) Were you able to opt out of the WVU Student Health Insurance?**

- Yes – **attach** a copy of your health insurance card     No

**2) Do you have a vehicle?**

- Yes – **attach** a copy of your title/loan, car registration, and car insurance     No

**SECTION VI. CERTIFICATION**

The information provided above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature** *(Must be in ink. Electronic signatures not accepted.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**What Happens Next?**

- You will be contacted via your student MIX email should additional documentation be needed.
- You will be notified of the decision to your student MIX email generally within 3-5 business days after the receipt of all necessary documentation. Please note that during peak times (such as the month before the start of the term), reviews can take longer to process due to high volume.
- You are responsible for paying charges that may be due prior to the decision of the review. Visit [financialaid.wvu.edu/options](http://financialaid.wvu.edu/options) for other funding and payment options.

**Return to Your Campus:**

**MORGANTOWN CAMPUS**  
**HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**  
**COLLEGE OF LAW**  
**POTOMAC STATE COLLEGE OF WVU**  
**WVU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

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