



2020-2021

DEPENDENCY STATUS APPEAL

Oregon State University needs information from you to process your Financial Aid Award.

Student Name

Student ID#

Before you get started with documenting your appeal, we want you to review the circumstances that **do not** qualify as "unusual circumstances" and that **do not** merit a dependency override. They include: parents refusing to contribute to the student's education; parents unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification; parents not claiming the student as a dependent for income tax purposes; or student demonstrating total self-sufficiency. Being self-supporting and living on your own is not adequate justification to grant an exception.

Please check the applicable category and provide the required documentation:

- **You have experienced loss of custodial parent**, and the other parent is still living but you have not had contact with, or any financial support from this living parent for a significant length of time (more than two years).
Required Documentation: Three letters of support; one from the student explaining the family situation for the past two years; two letters from objective third parties (i.e., school counselor, teacher, minister, family friend, social worker) which supports your claim for no contact and lack of support from living parent.
- **Your family situation is unsafe or unhealthy** as the result of physical or emotional abuse, or drug and/or alcohol abuse. In some cases, a professional may have counseled you to live apart from your parent(s).
Required Documentation: Three letters of support; one from the student explaining the family situation for the past two years; two letters from objective third parties (i.e., school counselor, teacher, minister, family friend, social worker) which supports your claim of an unreasonable or dysfunctional family situation.
- **Other Unusual Circumstances:** (Be sure your situation is not listed above)
Required Documentation: Three letters of support; one from the student explaining the family situation for the past two years; two letters from objective third parties (i.e., school counselor, teacher, minister, family friend, social worker) which supports your claim of unusual circumstances. In some cases of political refugee or eligible non-citizens, provide Department of Homeland Security documents.

Please return this form with all required supporting documentation attached to the address above. Appeals will be reviewed by the Advising Staff and you will be notified by letter of the decision.