



**SEWARD COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID
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**2026-2027
Provisional
Independent
Status Worksheet**

Often unmarried students who are under the age of 24 are required to provide parental data on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). They are referred to as dependent students. If you indicated that you have unusual circumstances or indicated for the first time you are an unaccompanied and homeless, or at risk of being homeless (without a designation from a specified entity), you are considered to be provisionally independent at this time. The Student Aid Index (SAI) calculated from your FAFSA will remain provisional and not official until the Financial Aid Office makes a final determination on your dependency status.

CIRCUMSTANCES NOT GIVEN CONSIDERATION:

Conditions, singly or in combination, that **do not qualify** for a dependency override include:

- *Parent(s) refusing to contribute to the student's education.*
- *Parent(s) unwilling to provide information necessary to complete the FAFSA and/or verification process.*
- *Parent(s) do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.*
- *Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency and/or does not live with parent(s).*

If one of the above situations apply to you, please resubmit your FAFSA by answering 'no' to the unusual circumstances question and listing your parent(s) as contributor(s).

UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES GIVEN CONSIDERATION

- *A student's voluntary or involuntary removal from the parents' home due to an extreme situation that threatened the student's health and/or safety and due to these conditions, parent support was terminated.*
- *Incapacity of parent(s) such as incarceration, mental or physical illness or the inability of the applicant to locate the parent(s).*
- *Other extenuating circumstances sufficiently documented.*

If one of the above situations apply to you, please submit the required documentation listed on the second page along with this form to the Financial Aid Office

REVIEW PROCEDURES

The following information covers the procedure that applies to determining a student's dependency status. A committee of Financial Aid Administrators will review the student's form and supporting documentation provided by the student, and based on their professional decision, will either approve or deny the student's request. Forms and documentation will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and all information will be kept confidential. The submission of this form does not guarantee approval of independent status.

The Financial Aid Office will notify the student via postal mail or campus e-mail with the result of the dependency decision. If the student has already completed a FAFSA for the year under review, a Financial Aid Administrator will make any necessary corrections electronically to the original FAFSA form.

We respect your right to keep your personal circumstances private, but we cannot determine dependency status without complete and well-documented explanations of unusual circumstances. All information is kept confidential. All documentation will be maintained in the student's private financial aid file.

PLEASE NOTE: THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE'S DECISION IS FINAL AND CANNOT BE APPEALED TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Documentation Required to Determine Independent Status

1. Your personal letter of appeal explaining the reason you need to be considered an Independent Student.

- a. The letter should provide as much detail as possible describing your separation from your parents. You are required to include the following information, in addition to your name, SCCC ID# and signature:
 - i. The whereabouts of your biological father and biological mother including their living arrangements. Include the last contact you had with each biological parent and the frequency of contact with each one over the past two (2) years. Provide detail of any financial support you have received from them in the last two (2) years.
 - ii. Details as to why you cannot provide parental financial information on the FAFSA.
 - iii. Your living arrangements over the past two (2) years. With whom have you lived? Who has provided support to you over the past two (2) years? How much time have you lived with and now without your biological parent(s)?

2. Letters from two individuals who can attest to your situation.

- a. Their letter should provide as much detail as possible describing your separation from your parents and must include their contact information and their relationship to the student.
- b. One letter should be on a letterhead from a professional individual not related to the student - counselor, high school guidance counselor, physician, social worker, clergy, police, etc. - or you must get approval from our office for any exceptions.
- c. The second letter can be from either a professional or nonprofessional individual, preferably not related to the student, not residing in the same household, and must include their relationship to the student and their contact information.
- d. *If you have any legal documents that supports your particular situation, submit copies to our office.*

3. A completed and signed 2026-2027 V1 Independent Verification Form (if requested by Financial Aid Office).

4. This worksheet signed and any additional documentation needed.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM. I CERTIFY THAT ALL DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING MY REQUEST TO BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENT ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Student ID: _____