

2020-2021 Request for Independence – Family Situation Appeal

Name: _____	
Date of Birth: _____	MSU Denver ID #: _____
E-mail: _____	Phone Number: _____
I affirm that I have read, understood, and agreed to this form in its entirety and that the information supplied is true and complete.	
Signature: _____	Date: _____

By completing this form, you are requesting that the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships review your dependency status to determine if you qualify for a dependency override based on your family situation. Complete and accurate information is necessary to make a decision regarding your dependency status. If the information requested is NOT submitted with all necessary documentation, processing of your appeal will be delayed until the additional information is provided.

In order for your appeal to be considered, you must document an *extreme, unique, and/or unusual family circumstance that prevents you from obtaining parental information*. Examples include family abuse, neglect, parental abandonment, and/or other situations where contact between you and your parents is strained or non-existent.

- This appeal is valid for the 2020-2021 academic year. Once you have completed a 2020-2021 FAFSA (www.fafsa.gov), please submit the required documentation as outlined below. If you have not completed the FAFSA or are having issues completing the FAFSA, you may check the “Special Circumstances” box within the online FAFSA application. Checking this box will allow you to submit your application *without having to provide parental information*.
- Once your appeal has been reviewed, you will be notified via your MSU Denver email with the decision of your appeal. Please note that a denied DEPFAM Appeal will mean that *parental information must be provided on the FAFSA*.

Please indicate **NEW APPEAL** or **PREVIOUSLY APPROVED APPEAL** and attach all information listed below for applicable appeal.

New Appeal. Please complete and submit ALL of the following information:

- Statement detailing why you do not have a relationship with either of your parents. Please be as detailed and thorough as possible in order to help our office determine your dependency status. Please note, our office can only make a decision based on the information you provide. Your statement must be typed and it must reference your relationship to BOTH parents.
- Statement from a third-party supporting your appeal and the reasons you are unable to obtain your parents information. Examples of third-parties include: counselors, teachers, clergy, community groups, government agencies, medical personnel, courts, or prison administrators.

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- Proof of 2018 tax/income information. If you filed taxes, you can utilize either the [IRS Data Retrieval Tool](#) via the 2020-2021 FAFSA or you can submit a copy of your 2018 Federal Tax Return Transcripts, which can be obtained via www.irs.gov. If you were employed in 2018 but did not file taxes, you must submit a copy of all 2018 W2s. If you were not employed in 2018, you must provide a statement explaining that you did not work and detailing how you were able to cover your living expenses without an income.
 - Proof of health insurance (i.e., copy of health insurance card). If you do not have health insurance coverage, you must provide a statement addressing the fact that you have no health insurance.
- Previously Approved Appeal.**
- My request to be independent of my parents for financial aid purposes was approved for the 2019-2020 aid year and my family situation has not changed. Supporting documents are not required, but we may follow-up with you.

Office Use Only Box:

APPROVED **DENIED** **PREVIOUS APPEAL APPROVED** **INCOMPLETE APPEAL**

Notes/Comments: _____

