

## 2023-2024 Independent Status

Student Last Name

First Name

**CID** Number or SSN

At the time you completed your 2023-2024 FAFSA application you answered yes to one of the following which requires our office to collect documentation to verify your independent status. **Please mark the appropriate box, attach the required documentation and return to the address or fax number below**. If you have provided our office with the documentation previously and your status has not changed mark the box below, sign, date and return.

□ I have previously provided your office with the required documentation and my status remains the same, refer to the documentation that was submitted previously.

Independent Circumstance	Definition	Documentation Required
D Orphan	At age 13 or older you had no living parent (biological or adoptive).	Provide a copy of parent's death certificate(s).
Generic Child	At age 13 or older, you were in foster care.	Provide a copy of a court's decision verifying you were in foster care.
□ Ward of Court	At age 13 or older you were a dependent/ward of the court.	Provide a copy of a court's decision verifying ward of the court status.
Emancipated Minor	You are or were an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence <b>before</b> you reached the age of being an adult in your state.	Provide a copy of a court's decision verifying you are an emancipated minor. The court must be in your state of legal residence. The State of New York <b>does not</b> have an emancipation of minor statute.
Legal Guardianship	You were in <b>legal guardianship</b> (other than a biological/adoptive parent) before you reached the age of being an adult in your state.	Provide a copy of a court's decision verifying you are in <u>"legal guardianship" not</u> <u>custody.</u> The court must be in your state of legal residence.
<ul> <li>Unaccompanied Youth (Homeless)</li> <li>"Youth" means you are 21 years of age or younger.</li> </ul>	At any time after July 1,2022 a school district homeless liaison, director of an emergency shelter funded by HUD or of a runaway transitional living program determined you were homeless or at risk of being a homeless youth.	Provide documentation on business letterhead verifying your current living situation from one of the following: School district homeless liaison, director of a HUD shelter or director of a RYHA shelter.
Dependents (other than your children or spouse)	You have dependents other than your children or spouse who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2024.	Provide a written explanation why the dependent resides with you, their name and relation to you and how you are supporting them.
None of the Above	You cannot provide supporting independence documentation.	Our office will send you required paperwork to correct your FAFSA to include parental information.

By signing this form I verify that the information reported is accurate and I understand I must attach the documentation required above or I will not be considered an independent student for financial aid purposes.

Student Signature