

# PETITION FOR DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE



The Department of Education determines a student's status as dependent or independent by the answers the student provides on the questions listed in Step Three of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Per federal regulation, the Office of Student Financial Assistance must utilize the questions from the FAFSA to determine a student's dependency status.

Self-sufficiency of the student or parental unwillingness to financially contribute to a student's education is not a sufficient reason for determining a student's status as independent. There are specific instances including: parental abuse, parental abandonment, and incarceration of a parent, in which a student may be considered for a dependency override.

Dependency override consideration requires documentation of the student's parental situation.

## **Submitted documentation should include:**

1. Letter explaining your parental situation
2. Documentation of the parental situation  
(arrest/ incarceration records, death certificate(s), letter from third party i.e. Department of Children and Families, social worker, guidance counselor )

*You must include information on both parents (biological or adoptive).*

Your appeal and supporting documentation will be reviewed. Based on professional judgment of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, your petition will either be granted or denied. You will be notified in writing or via e-mail of the decision.

If your Petition for Dependency Override is approved and you have a completed FAFSA on file for the year under review, the Financial Aid Administrator will send any necessary FAFSA corrections to the U.S. Department of Education. If you have not completed the FAFSA, you must do so. The FAFSA may be completed electronically at [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov).

A Dependency Override is granted on a yearly basis. Therefore, a student who was granted a Dependency Override must reapply for a Dependency Override in subsequent academic years.

**The student will need to complete the “Petition for Dependency Override” form each academic year to be evaluated for possible renewal of his/her status**

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## Student Information:

First Name

Last Name

UCF ID

Phone

Knight's Email

## Parent 1 Information:

First Name

Last Name

Address

Phone:

## Parent 2 Information:

First Name

Last Name

Address

Phone:

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## Reason for Dependency Override Petition:

Incarcerated Parent(s)

Abuse

Parental Abandonment

Custodial Parent Deceased, other Parent meets one or more categories

Homeless or At Risk of Homelessness

Other

When did you last live with your parents?

When did your parents last provide any monetary support for you?

Who do you live with at the present time?

When was the last time you had contact with your parents?

Parent 1

Parent 2

How often do you have contact with your parents?

Parent 1

Parent 2

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Did you file the 2022-2023 FAFSA?

Yes

No

If yes, when did you file the 2022-2023 FAFSA?

Have you previously applied for Dependency Override at UCF?

Yes

No

Was your previous application for Dependency Override at UCF approved or denied?

Approved

Denied

Not Applicable

Date of previous Dependency Override at UCF?

Please attach an explanation of the extenuating circumstances and history of your parental situation.

**Include why you no longer live with your parents, and why they no longer support you. In addition, you are required to include information regarding the whereabouts of both of your biological /adoptive parents within the last five years. Each extenuating circumstance mentioned in your explanation must be supported by applicable documentation (such as police reports or arrest records)**

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## Student Signature

I certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct. I also understand that by signing this form, I authorize the UCF Office of Student Financial Assistance to contact any third-party reference and verify any information supplied on this form

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Submit complete forms at [finaid.ucf.edu/upload](https://finaid.ucf.edu/upload). Route this form to Professional Judgement/ SAP Appeals