

Your status as an <u>independent</u> student for financial aid purposes is based entirely on your response(s) to one or more of the dependency status questions shown below when you completed the 2022-2023 FAFSA. The Financial Aid & Veterans Services office requires proof of your status.

PLEASE NOTE - Your eligibility for financial aid cannot be determined until the verification process is complete.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this worksheet <u>using blue or black ink</u>, attach any required documentation, sign, and submit the completed package to the WCC Financial Aid & Veterans Services office for review.

Check the appropriate box below:

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	DEPENDENCY STATUS QUESTION		DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED
	At any time after age 13, <u>both</u> of my parents were deceased.	>	Copy of your birth certificate AND Copies of the death certificates for both parents
	At any time after age of 13, I was in foster care OR I was a dependent or ward of the court.	•	Court documents confirming that you were in foster care or that you were a ward of the court at some time between the ages of 13 – 18.
	A court determined me to be an emancipated minor.	•	Court documents from your legal state of residence confirming your legal emancipation before your 18th birthday.
	I was in a legal guardianship with someone other than my biological parent and/or stepparent immediately before my 18 th birthday.	•	Court documents from your legal state of residence confirming the <u>legal guardianship</u> . (IMPORTANT – custody is not the same as legal guardianship, even if court ordered.)
	On or after July 1, 2021, I was determined to be either an unaccompanied youth who was homeless OR a self-supporting youth who was at risk of being homeless.	•	Homeless youth determination letter from a counselor OR director of a homeless shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
	None of these situations applies to me – I am a dependent student.	•	Correct the dependency status questions on your FAFSA at <u>studentaid.gov</u> and provide parent information.
	I have special circumstances that are not reflected above and am not able to provide any parent information.	•	Please contact Financial Aid & Veterans Services for guidance.
CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE			
By signing below, I certify that the information reported on this form and any supporting documentation is true and complete.			
STUDENT SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)			DATE

WARNING: If you purposely provide false or misleading information to obtain financial aid, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.