The federal methodology assumes that the primary responsibility for paying for college cost rests with the family. Federal regulations permit the college to exercise professional judgment in determining if unusual circumstances exist and can be documented to make the student independent for federal financial aid purposes. This determination is made on a case by case basis.

WHAT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES:

• A STUDENT WHO DOES NOT WANT TO ASK PARENTS FOR INFORMATION
• A STUDENT WHO IS AND HAS BEEN ON "THEIR OWN" FOR SEVERAL YEARS
• A PARENT REFUSING TO PROVIDE DATA
• STUDENT WHO DOES NOT COMMUNICATE WITH PARENTS
• A STUDENT WHO HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED INDEPENDENT BUT DOES NOT MEET THE CURRENT DEFINITION FOR 2010-2011
• A STUDENT WHO IS DIVORCED AT THE TIME OF FILING THE FAFSA AND DOES NOT MEET ONE OF THE CURRENT DEFINITIONS FOR 2010-2011

Instructions

• Attach documentation of 2009 income (copy of your SIGNED 2009 1040 & W2s, copy of most recent paycheck stub from employment in 2010)
• Written petition addressing why you should be independent
• Three letters detailing the history of the student/parent relationship from persons, agencies, organizations that are aware of this relationship on official letterhead.
• Other documentation may be requested if selected for Federal verification.

The Office of Financial Aid will review your petition to determine if unusual circumstances exist and if adequate documentation has been provided. Written Notification of the committee's decision will be mailed in ten (10) business days.
Office of Student Financial Aid

Appeal for Independent Student Status

Date____________________

___________________________________________________/____________________________/_________________

Name       FKCC- ID       Email Address

A. Explain the unusual/extenuating family circumstances and why you should be independent. Please attach documents to support your petition.

B. Explain how you are meeting your educational and living expenses Without parental assistance.

_____________________________________________________

Please return form to Office of Financial Aid on the campus you attend.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this form, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.