



AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

Office of Financial Aid

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AMUFinancialaid@avemaria.edu

Dependency Override

Federal regulations permit the University to override a student's dependency status for federal financial aid purposes if unusual circumstances exist and can be documented. This determination is made on a case by case basis. Not all requests will qualify for a Dependency Override.

The following conditions are NOT considered unusual circumstances:

- A parent refusing to provide data or refusing to contribute towards the student's education
- A student who does not wish to communicate with parents or who is not claimed on the parents' income tax
- A student who demonstrates total self-sufficiency and does not meet at least one of the current definitions of an independent student (as established on section 3 of the FAFSA application)
- A student who has been previously considered independent for the purposes of receiving financial aid but does not meet at least one of the current definition of an independent student (as established on section 3 of the FAFSA application)
- A student who is divorced at the time of filing and does not meet one of the current definitions of an independent student (as established on section 3 of the FAFSA application)

Name: _____

Semester & Year: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

A. Typical Required Documentation (Additional Documentation may be requested)

- ┆ Complete FAFSA application (www.fafsa.gov)
- ┆ Personal statement from you explaining your request for dependency override, including detailed information on the whereabouts of BOTH your parents and the status of your relationship with them as well as any unusual circumstances you want to be considered.
- ┆ Three (3) letters, either NOTARIZED with business card or on LETTERHEAD from officials (employer, clergy, doctor, lawyer, professor, teacher, counselor/psychiatrist/psychologist, government agencies, courts, prison administrators, etc.) that can attest to your independent status, as well as the whereabouts of BOTH your parents and your relationship with them. Letters from relatives or friends may be considered for special cases.

B. Dependency Override renewal (Select if applicable)

- ┆ A student with a previously approved Dependency Override at Ave Maria University who does not meet the federal criteria for independent status on the FAFSA may submit this application with a statement documenting current status for determination if the extenuating circumstances established in the prior year still exist.

C. Student Certification

- ┆ All the information on this form is true to the best of my knowledge and I have attached the appropriate supporting documentation.

Upload all documents to [Application to Upload Document](#) on your [Financial Aid portal](#).

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____