

**2025-2026 DEPENDENCY CHANGE REQUEST**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ TTU R# \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Students classified as dependent may petition to be reclassified as independent based upon documented adverse family circumstances that make obtaining your parents' FAFSA information impossible. Examples of adverse conditions include but are not limited to severe estrangement from parents, an unsafe home environment, unknown whereabouts of your parents, abuse, abandonment, drug abuse, and parent incarceration.

This form can be used to request a review of extenuating circumstances regarding your dependent status. These extenuating circumstances must be documented by an objective third party (i.e. high school or college counselor, social services agency official, pastor or clergy, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.) to qualify.

**The following examples will not make you independent:**

- \*Parental refusal to contribute financially to your education
- \*Parental refusal to provide information necessary to complete the FAFSA
- \*Parents do not claim you as a dependent for income tax purposes
- \*You demonstrate self-sufficiency

**Required Documentation**

FAFSA, [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov) (Your FAFSA must be on file before a dependency change can be processed.)

Submit a typed letter detailing the special circumstances that make you independent from your parents. You need to describe your current relationship (even if it is non-existent) with both of your parents. A handwritten signature is required on this letter. In your letter, address the following items:

1. The nature of your relationship with both your parents
2. Provide the date and place of your last contact with your parents
3. Current living arrangements and how you've been supporting yourself
4. The reason your parents do not provide housing and why they refuse to help with your education costs

Three (3) statements from individuals that can confirm the relationship with your parents. At least one of them needs to be from a professional. Professional third parties can include clergy, counselor, teacher, lawyer, police etc. Individuals writing these statements must email their signed statements to [finaid.special@ttu.edu](mailto:finaid.special@ttu.edu).

Marriage -- If you are now married, please provide:

1. Marriage license
2. Update your FAFSA to married and invite your spouse to be a contributor to add their tax information

If you are unable to obtain professional references, please clearly address the circumstances in your personal statement as to why there is no supporting documentation.



## Student Certification

Your signature on this document confirms your acknowledgment of the following:

All of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to provide further documentation to substantiate the information provided. I understand that false statements or misrepresentations will be cause for denial, reduction, or repayment of financial aid funds received. I understand that all requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and this written request may not ultimately result in actual change in financial aid.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_