



California State University SAN MARCOS

Financial Aid and Scholarships Office Tel: 760.750.4850 Fax: 760.750.3047 www.csusm.edu/finaid

2016-2017 CONFIRMATION OF INDEPENDENT STATUS

Student Name: _____ Student ID #: _____

You indicated on your FAFSA that you meet one of the definitions for independent status listed below, and therefore parental financial information was not required on the FAFSA. In order to proceed with the determination of your financial aid eligibility, we need additional documentation to confirm your status. Complete and sign this form, attach the requested documentation to this form, and submit the packet to our office.

PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE BOX BELOW, AND PROVIDE OUR OFFICE WITH THE REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION.

Orphan: You are considered an independent student if BOTH of your parents were deceased since you turned age 13 or older, even if you are now adopted. Check this box and attach a photocopy of both your Parents' Death Certificates.
Foster Youth: Check this box if you have been identified as a foster youth at any time since you turned age 13. Please attach a photocopy of the court documents that indicate your foster youth status.
Ward of the Court: The federal definition of "Ward of the Court" is that the court determined your parent(s) were unable to care for you, and the State or the Court took legal custody of you. You were removed from your parent's custody for your protection. If you have been named a "Ward of the Court" at any time since you turned age 13, check this box and attach a photocopy of the court order or a letter from your Social Worker verifying your "Ward of the Court" status. You cannot check "Yes" to "Ward of the Court" if you were convicted of a crime as a juvenile and became a Ward of the Court through the California probation system. If this is your situation you will need to correct your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov by adding your parent financial information and parent signature.
Emancipated Minor: Emancipation is the legal process by which youth are released from the control of their parent or guardian. Check this box and attach a photocopy of the court's Declaration of Emancipation. Check this box even if you are no longer a minor, but the Declaration of Emancipation was in effect at the time you became an adult. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. If you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, you will need to change your answer on the FAFSA by logging onto www.fafsa.ed.gov .
Legal Guardianship: The definition of legal guardianship does not include your parents, even if they were appointed by a Court to be your guardian and cannot have been initiated by your parents. You are also not considered a legal guardian of yourself. If you have a Court-appointed legal guardian, please check this box and attach a photocopy of the court order. Check this box even if you are no longer a minor, but the legal guardianship was in effect at the time you became an adult. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. If you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, you will need to change your answer on the FAFSA by logging onto www.fafsa.ed.gov .

If you are unable to provide the requested documentation and are still unable to provide parent financial information, please contact a Financial Aid Advisor in the CSUSM Financial Aid and Scholarships Office located in Cougar Central, Craven Hall 3700 or contact us at 760-750-4850.

Signature: _____ Date: _____