

2019-2020

Dependency Status Clarification/Update Request

(Clarification of Dependency Status or Proof of Independent Status)

Student Name: _____ Murray State Student ID# (M#) _____

Our office requires appropriate documentation to substantiate the clarification of the dependency status within the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This clarification will be used to determine the eligibility for federal assistance.

A student's extenuating circumstances may warrant a dependency status update and allow the student to be considered independent for financial aid purposes.

Circumstances warranting a review include:	Circumstances NOT warranting a review include:
Unstable family situation (e.g. physical or emotional abuse)	Parent(s) refusal to provide data for the FAFSA
Abusive family environment	Parent(s) do not claim the student for income tax purposes
Abandonment by parents	Parent(s) unwilling or unable to contribute to student's education
Social Services, police or legal intervention	Student demonstrates self-sufficiency
Other relevant unusual circumstance	Student choosing not to live with parent(s)
	Student reluctant to request the income data from parent(s)
	Student does not wish to communicate with parent(s)

Please check appropriately:

My current dependency status within the FAFSA does not accurately reflect my current circumstance. I have submitted the appropriate documentation to Murray State University for review.

During a previous award year, the dependency status was updated to independent by Murray State University. My current circumstance is unchanged. I have submitted the appropriate documentation for review and understand additional documents may be required.

All students must provide a precise and detailed statement regarding their situation and reason(s) and attach documentation where applicable.

This document must be signed certifying the accuracy of the information provided. Any individual signing this form certifies that all information is complete and accurate. Warning: If any individual purposely gives false or misleading information on this form, he/she may be fined, sentenced to jail, or both.

Murray State University Office of Financial Aid does not allow an electronic signature.

All documentation must be completed with an original signature prior to submission to our office, including via email, mail, or fax.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Required Documentation

Review the following circumstances to determine which best pertains to your situation. Please submit the requested documentation along with your completed 2019-2020 Dependency Status Clarification/Update Request form.

In addition to the documentation listed below, all situations require a signed statement explaining your circumstance. If a form is required, please attach any supporting documentation specifically requested on the form. Include any additional information you feel may be helpful in determining your dependency status.

I am active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces or a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces

- 2019-2020 [Veteran Status Verification form](#)

I have or will have children or other dependents who will receive more than half of their support from me between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

- 2019-2020 [Dependent Support Verification form](#)
- Rental agreement
 - Rental agreement should be signed and be for at least the past two years, if applicable. If not, a letter of explanation should be included
- At least two utility statements
 - Cellular statements are NOT acceptable

Since I turned age 13, both my parents are deceased, I was in foster care or I was a dependent or ward of the court.

-or-

As determined by a court in my state of legal residence, I was or am an emancipated minor.

-or-

Someone other than my parent or stepparent has legal guardianship of me, as determined by a court in my state of legal residence.

- Court documentation that confirms your status in the foster care system, as a dependent or ward of the court, as an emancipated minor, or as in legal guardianship.
- If parents are deceased, provide parent death certificates and your birth certificate confirming familial relationship.

At any time on or after July 1, 2018, my high school or school district homeless liaison, the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program, or the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.

- [Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Verification form](#) completed by the appropriate designee.

My situation is not listed above; I am requesting an exception be made.

- Three letters from non-relatives, excluding friends, who can attest to your current living arrangements AND the situation you are facing or have faced.
 - Each individual should live at a different address
 - The individuals could include:
 - Clergy / Social Workers / Teachers / Guidance Counselors / Police / Professors
 - The individuals should submit the signed letter on their professional letterhead.