

2025-26 DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE REQUEST FORM

Name: _____ SS#: _____
Address: _____ SID#: _____
Phone #: _____ Email _____

Financial aid legislation passed by Congress established the criteria to be considered independent for the 2025-26 academic year.

A student who does not meet any of these criteria must be considered a "dependent" student for financial aid purposes, which means the student is required by law to report parent income information on the financial aid application.

Although reporting parent income on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) does not obligate a parent to provide financial support, it must be reported to be able to calculate the student's eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant, Direct Subsidized Loan, etc. Students who report parent income on the FAFSA and who do not demonstrate financial need may be offered a Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

Not being claimed as an exemption on the parent tax return does not make a student independent for financial aid purposes.

If you wish to be considered for a Dependency Override because you have special circumstances, such as parental abandonment or abuse, death of the responsible parent, or have been supported by someone other than your parent(s) for several years, you must document your situation in writing by providing the following:

- 1) A signed letter from yourself explaining the situation;
- 2) A signed letter from a relative or family friend;
- 3) A signed letter from a third party (a different relative or family friend, counselor, minister, or teacher--preferably not a fellow student) explaining the situation;
- 4) A copy of your most recent federal income tax return, if you filed one;

Your letter should address the state of the relationship between you and your parents, their whereabouts, where you have lived for at least the past 12 months and how you have supported yourself. The supporting letters should do the same and include the author's address, relationship to you, email address and daytime phone number.

Complete the 2025-26 FAFSA and submit to the University of Oklahoma (Code 003184) or attach a completed paper FAFSA and the other required documentation described above and return it to the Student Financial Center. **The packet can be submitted to the SFC Dropbox in One.ou.edu. Please do not submit by email.**