

GREENVILLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE
DEPENDENCY APPEAL 2017-2018

(Request to Override Current Dependent Status)

For Financial Aid use only:

Approved: _____

Denied: _____

FA Initials: _____

Completion Date: _____

Student's Name

Student's ID

Student's Address

Student's E-Mail Address

Student's Phone Number

For Federal Student Aid Program purposes, students are classified as **dependent** based on the concept that a student's parents have the primary responsibility of providing for the student's post-secondary education.

The U.S. Department of Education has defined a student as **independent**, if *any* of the following are true:

- You are married
- You are an Orphan or have been made a Ward of the Court at any time since the age of 13. (*Must provide official court documentation*)
- You were born before January 1, 1994
- You are an emancipated minor (*Must provide official court documentation*)
- You are (or have been prior to turning 18) in legal guardianship. (*Must provide official court documentation*)
- You have been determined to be an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless. (*Must provide official documentation*)
- You are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Services, (*Discharge must not be dishonorable*)
- You are currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training
- You are working on a Masters or Doctorate degree (*not applicable at GTC*)
- You have children who receive more than half of their support from you
- You have dependents (**other than your children or spouse**) who reside with you and receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2018

NOTE: You do not need to complete this form if one or more of the above conditions apply to you.

The Higher Education Act allows a Financial Aid administrator to consider a dependency appeal on a case by case basis for students with unusual circumstances; however, **the conditions listed below, singularly or in combination, DO NOT qualify as unusual circumstances or warrant a dependency override.**

- **Parents refusal to contribute to the student's education**
- **Parents unwillingness to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification**
- **Parents do not claim the student as an exemption on their tax return transcript from the IRS**
- **Student demonstrates self-sufficiency**
- **Student does not reside with parents or parents reside in another state**

IMPORTANT

- **You must submit a 2017-2018 FAFSA for the Dependency Appeal to be completed.**
- **Dependency status must be re-certified each academic year. It does not automatically renew.**
- **Adjustments made to your FAFSA as a result of an approved dependency appeal may change your financial aid awards.**
- **Dependency appeals submitted without required documentation will be returned.**
- **Dependency appeals may delay the completion of your financial aid file.**

SEE REVERSE SIDE

SUBMIT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR A DEPENDENCY APPEAL:

1. A signed letter of explanation from the student detailing why you should be considered an independent student. Please explain including your biological or adoptive parents and their interaction with you.
2. Two or more signed statements from third parties having firsthand knowledge of the circumstances.
These should include statements on agency letterhead from social workers, school officials, medical professionals, church officials, counselors, or others in positions of authority that are familiar with your situation. This could also include personal references; however references that do not represent an agency opinion MUST BE NOTARIZED.
3. A 2017 - 2018 Independent Verification Worksheet obtained from the GTC Financial Aid Office or FA webpage.
4. If you did not use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool when completing the 2017-2018 FAFSA, a copy of your 2015 federal tax return transcript from the IRS, W-2(s), 1099s and schedule K1 and any other pertinent financial data for the academic year in which the appeal is being requested.

By my signature, I attest that all of the information on this Dependency Status Appeal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I purposely give false or misleading information on this form, I may be subject to a \$20,000.00 fine, a prison sentence, or both.

Student's Signature

Date

PLEASE PLACE A CHECK MARK NEXT TO THE CIRCUMSTANCE BELOW WHICH BEST REFLECTS YOUR SITUATION.

- (A) Unusual circumstances exist within your family that prevents you from obtaining your parent's financial information, such as:**
- Incarceration of the **custodial** parent and whereabouts of other parent is unknown
 - Abandonment by **both** parents
 - History of **illegal** drug abuse within the household
 - Abusive family environment which is detrimental to your **physical** or **mental** well-being

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE:

- Copies of any relevant court documents, proof of incarceration, or other legal documentation.

- (B) Death of custodial parent and severe circumstances exist with the surviving parent.**
- One parent is deceased and an abusive situation or abandonment exists with the custodial parent.
 - One parent is deceased and the **whereabouts** of the other parent is unknown.
 - Custodial parent is deceased and the other parent is incarcerated.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE:

- A copy of the death certificate, newspaper obituary, or funeral program
- If applicable, proof of incarceration.