

DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE REQUEST

Academic Year 2020-2021

According to federal financial aid regulations, you are considered a dependent student and will need to include our parent’s income and asset information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) unless you meet one or more of the following conditions:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Were you born before January 1, 1997? 2. Are you enrolled in a master’s or doctorate degree program? 3. Are you married or separated but not divorced at the time you apply for aid? 4. Do you have or will you have children who receive more than half of their financial support from you between 7/1/2020 and 6/30/2021? 5. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you now and through 6/30/2021? 6. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? 7. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. At any time since you turned age 13 were you an orphan, in foster care or were you a ward of the court as determined a court in your state of legal residence? 9. Are you (or were prior to age 18) an emancipated minor? 10. As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are (or were) you in legal guardianship? 11. Were you at any time on or after July 1, 2019 determined to be an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless (as determined by your high school, the director of an emergency shelter funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or b the director of a runaway or homeless youth center)?
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In **unusual circumstances**, an aid administrator can determine that a student who does not meet any of the above criteria should still be considered an independent student. **Four conditions that do not qualify as unusual circumstances** or that do not merit a dependency override are:

1. Parents refuse to contribute to the student’s education.
2. Parents are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or verification documents.
3. Parents did not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
4. Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.

Student’s Information

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Student’s ID Number
Street Address (include apt. no.)			Date of Birth
City	State	Zip Code	Email Address
Home Phone Number (include area code)			Alternate or Cell Phone Number

Step A. Please review the reasons below and select one that best describes your circumstances.

1. Severe circumstances within your family prevent you from obtaining your parents’ financial information, such as an abusive home situation which is detrimental to your physical or mental well-being, abandonment by both parents, a history of parental alcohol or drug abuse, or incarceration of the custodial parent.

2. Death of a parent after filing the FAFSA and the surviving parent meets one of the conditions listed in number 1.

3. You are divorced after being married for at least two years and maintained a residence apart from yours and your former spouse’s parents during the time you were married. You now maintain a separate residence from your parents and pay all expenses from your own income and assets.

Step B. Please review the reasons below and select one that best describes your circumstances.

1. If you checked reason #1 in Step A, **provide** two or more of the following acceptable sources of documentation: Signed statements from adult professionals on professional letterhead, who are not family members, which verify the family circumstances described in your personal statement. Adult professionals include clergy members, attorneys, school guidance counselors, medical doctors, mental health professionals, teachers or professors, laws enforcement officers, professional staff of Children and Family Services (Public Assistance Department), and officers of the court. Letters must be signed originals on agency letterhead with the professional title listed. Personal sources which do not represent an agency opinion must be notarized.
2. If you checked reason #2 in Step A, **provide** a photocopy of your parent’s death certificate or newspaper obituary and two or more acceptable sources of documentation listed above in number 1.
3. If you checked reason #3 in Step A, **provide** all of the following:
 - a. Complete copies of your marriage license and divorce decree
 - b. Signed and notarized statement from your parents verifying amounts of financial support of any kind (other than reasonable gifts for birthdays and holidays) or the absence of such support after you married.
4. All must submit the following verification items:
 - a. A 2019-2020 Independent Verification Form
 - b. A 2019-2020 Student Resource and Expense Certification
 - c. A copy of your 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript (if you filed a 2018 return), available at www.irs.gov
 - d. A copy of a **current** lease agreement or rental contract

FAILURE TO PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS WILL DELAY PROCESSING OR RESULT IN YOUR REQUSET BEING REJECTED.

Step C. Additional Information – Answer all questions.

1. In what year were you last claimed by your parent(s) as a dependent on a federal tax return? _____
2. When did you last live with your parent(s)? Month _____ Year _____
3. When did you last receive financial support from your parent(s)? Month _____ Year _____
4. Are you included as a dependent under your parent(s)’ medical plan? Yes/No
5. Do you own or have the use of an automobile while attending NWOSU? Yes/No
6. Is the automobile registered in your name? Yes/No (may be asked to provide copy of registration)
7. Have you previously submitted a request for a Dependency Override to NWOSU? Yes/No

Step D. Write a personal statement.

Submit with your documentation a typed personal statement which completely and explicitly explains the basis of your appeal. Your statement will be used only to determine if a dependency exception should be made and the information will be held in strictest confidence.

Step E. Student Certification -- Read carefully before you sign.

I hereby certify that all information contained in this appeal for independent status, including my personal statement and other documentation, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any false statements or fraudulent documentation. I understand that if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false or fraudulent statements and/or documentation my appeal will be denied and my eligibility for Federal and State Student Aid will be jeopardized.

Your Signature

Date

Submit completed form and all required documentation to:
Office of Financial Assistance
Northwestern Oklahoma State University—Herod Hall 113
709 Oklahoma Blvd
Alva, OK 73717
Phone (580) 327-8542 Fax (580) 327 8177