



Under federal guidelines, most undergraduate students are considered dependent on their parents until age 24, and financial aid eligibility is calculated using parent financial information. However, a student may have extenuating circumstances that require consideration for independent status. Allowable reasons include such situations as abuse, abandonment, or other irreconcilable differences within the family. If you feel your situation meets one of these criteria, we encourage you to submit a dependency appeal. Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing.

Please keep in mind that parent's unwillingness or inability to contribute to your education are not considered extenuating circumstances.

Submit all required documentation with this form:

- ✓ Signed, detailed letter from you, the student, explaining the extenuating circumstances, including your relationship with either your biological or adoptive parents. Please also include an explanation of where you expect to receive your financial support for the next school year
- ✓ Two detailed letters from independent 3rd party source (ex. Counselor, medical authority, clergy, court, government agency) who can attest first hand to your circumstances.
- ✓ If you cannot submit a letter from an independent source, please explain why in your appeal letter. You may then provide a signed letter from another source in its place.

GW Student Last Name	First Name	MI	GWid
Student Email Address			Parent of Dependent Student Email Address
Student Phone Number			Parent of Dependent Student Phone Number

Please attach a letter to provide further explanation if there are any other factors you would like us to consider as a part of our review.

Remember to also include supporting documentation relevant to the change in circumstances. Dependency Appeal forms submitted without supporting documentation will NOT be reviewed.

CERTIFICATION

I understand that if I purposely give false or misleading information, I may receive a fine, a prison sentence or both. By signing this form, I certify that all information is complete and correct.

Student Signature	Date