

Last Name _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____

Middlesex College ID Number _____ Phone Number _____

Based on your 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you are considered a dependent student, meaning that your application will be considered incomplete without parental income and asset information. However, recognizing that certain special circumstances may exist, Financial Aid Administrators have the ability to make a documented determination of independence based upon "other unusual circumstances." Dependency overrides are permitted on truly exceptional circumstances and must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

All decisions are final and may not be appealed.Circumstances that **do not** merit a dependency override are:

1. Parents refusing to contribute to the student's education;
2. Parents unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification;
3. Parents not claiming the student as a dependent for income tax purposes;
4. A choice made by the student to move out of his/her parent's home and be financially independent.

Circumstances that **may** be considered for a dependency override evaluation are:

1. Severe estrangement/abandonment from parents;
2. Abusive family environment that threatens the student's health or safety;
3. Unable to locate parents.

Please complete all the following items in support of your request:

- 1. Briefly explain the unusual circumstance(s) that makes you an independent student.**

- 2. Identify the name and location of both of your parents.**

Parent 1) Name _____ City _____ State _____

Parent 2) Name _____ City _____ State _____

- 3. Describe the last time you had contact with each of your parents (when, where, and the nature and extent of your contact).**

- 4. Check off the box that best describes your relationship with your parents and provide an explanation.**

- No communication
- Some Communication: Explain

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Other: Explain

5. Please indicate the amount and source of all annual income for 2021 and 2022. (i.e. wages, monetary gifts from persons other than parents, interest income).

2021 \$ _____ Source _____

2022 \$ _____ Source _____

6. Please provide the following items:

- A personal statement detailing your unusual circumstance;
- A letter from one (1) professional on official letterhead or agency stationary; and
- Letters from two (2) other adults who are aware of your situation. Statements from teachers, guidance counselors, members of the clergy as well as copies of appropriate court documents are also acceptable. All statements must include the following:
 - Relationship of the individual writing the statement to you
 - Date the individual met you
 - Date the individual first learned of your circumstances
 - An explanation of your individual circumstances and the relationship that you have with your parents.
 - The letter MUST be signed and dated by the person writing the statement

7. In addition to the information above, please provide the following documents, if applicable.

- 2021 Income Documentation (IRS tax transcript, W2 forms, letter from employer, etc.)
- 2021 Untaxed Income Documentation (i.e, TANF, social security, etc.)
- Independent Verification Worksheet

If any of the documents are not available, please provide an explanation on the lines below:

I certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this form will be used to evaluate my application as an independent student and may be released to the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA).

Student Signature

Date