



Section A: Student Information

Last Name	First	Middle	JWCC Student ID
Permanent address (Include apartment number)		E-mail Address	
City	State	Zip Code	(Area Code) Phone Number

For 2026-2027 award year, a student is automatically independent if he or she meets one of the dependency criteria listed on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students who do not meet one of these standards are dependent by federal regulations and must include parents' information on the FAFSA form. If you believe circumstances warrant you being considered independent of your parents, this form provides instructions to petition for independent status. Unusual circumstances are cases such as an abusive family environment, or abandonment by parents where attainment of parental financial documents or support is impossible.

Section B: Appeal Information

If you believe extenuating circumstances exist and would like to be reviewed for a dependency appeal by the Financial Aid Office, you must explain and document the circumstances.

The following are NOT considered exceptional circumstances:

- Parent(s) refusing to provide data on the FAFSA or for verification
- Parent(s) are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or the verification process
- Parent(s) do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
- Students who demonstrate total self-sufficiency
- Students do not reside with their parent(s)

A student will not be independent solely because he/she is self-supporting, is unwilling to accept parental assistance, or because a parent is unwilling to provide the financial data or support. John Wood Community College will not make a student independent based on the student being declared independent by another college/university.

Section C: Instructions

The following documentation may be required when submitting this form:

- (REQUIRED) Student statement of circumstances (be as detailed as possible – see statement directions)
- (REQUIRED) Statement from a professional (counselor, lawyer, etc.) familiar with your situation.
- Signed copy of your 2024 federal income tax return and W-2 forms if available
- Documentation of where you lived since January 2024 and copies of corresponding bills (i.e. signed lease agreements, housing contract, utility bills, telephone bill) if available
- Any supporting documents (i.e. police report, court order, etc.) if available

Section D: Student Statement

Explain why you should be considered independent. Your explanation should include:

- ✓ Information about your relationship with your parents and their living arrangements (location). Include the last contact you had with parents and include when, where, how, and why;
- ✓ Your current living arrangements for 2024 to current (may attach an itemized monthly budget);
- ✓ Most recent date you received support from or lived with your parents (Support includes housing, food, medical insurance, car insurance, cash, etc.);
- ✓ Explain the unusual circumstances that should make you an independent student.

Section E: Certification – Read carefully before you sign a dependency appeal

I certify that all information contained in this request for dependency override is true and complete. I understand that if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false or fraudulent statements and/or documentation, my request will be denied, and my eligibility for aid jeopardized.

John Wood Community College reserves the right to request additional documentation in the future to support claims made on this form.

Student Signature

Date

John Wood Community College /Financial Aid Office

1301 South 48th Street
Quincy, IL 62305
(217)641-4333

Questions: financialaid@jwcc.edu

For office use only:

Approved: _____ Denied: _____ By: _____ Date: _____

Notes: