



2022-2023 DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE APPEAL FORM

Financial Aid Office

4240 Campus Drive Lima, OH 45804 | (419) 995-8802 | Fax (419) 995-8112 | FinAid@RhodesState.edu | www.RhodesState.edu

Students who are under the age of 24, unmarried, and do not have children are generally considered a dependent student. Federal regulations stipulate all dependent students must provide parental information on their Free Application of Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Occasionally, a student has extenuating circumstances that may allow a Financial Aid Administrator to override the requirement of parental information on their FAFSA through the authority given them under Section 480(d)(7) of the Higher Education Act.

What is a Dependency Override?

A dependency override occurs when a Financial Aid Administrator exercises the use of professional judgment to override the dependency status of an otherwise dependent student from dependent to independent. The use of the Financial Aid Administrator's professional judgement must be completed on a case-by-case basis based on the information provided them by the student.

The following circumstances ARE NOT considered reason for a dependency override:
Parents refusal to contribute to the student's education
Parents refuse to provide necessary information on the FAFSA or during the verification process
Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
Student demonstrates that he/she is totally self-sufficient
Student's marital status has changed since filing the FAFSA

The following circumstances MAY merit a dependency override:
Abuse (physical, emotional, mental, etc.)
Parent Alcoholism/Drug Abuse
Parent Estrangement
Neglect/Abandonment
Parent Incarceration/Institutionalization

Submitting a Dependency Override Appeal

Before submitting a dependency override appeal, you must have a completed 2022-2023 FAFSA on file with our office.

Students must complete and submit the Dependency Override Appeal form and all requested supporting documentation to the Financial Aid Office before a determination on your dependency status can be made.

Appeals are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and all information provided by the student will be kept confidential. Students with unusual circumstances that qualify for a dependency override will be deemed an independent student for the current aid year. Dependency Override Appeals must be submitted each year the student is enrolled at Rhodes State College, no exceptions.

The submission of the Dependency Override Appeal form does not guarantee appeal approval. The Financial Aid Administrator reviewing the dependency override appeal paperwork will notify students via their Rhodes State College e-mail account when the determination of their Dependency Status Appeal is made. Additional documentation may be requested after the appeal is submitted and before the decision is made. Processing of the appeal will be completed within fourteen (14) business days of all documentation being received.

Submit forms:

- In person to the Financial Aid Office (located in the Public Service Building Suite 148)
- Via US Mail:
Rhodes State College Financial Aid Office
4240 Campus Drive
Lima, Ohio 45804
- Via Fax:
419-995-8473

All decisions made by the Financial Aid Administrator are final.





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Please complete the following sections entirely. Incomplete or unsupported appeals will be denied.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Full Name

Student ID (R#)

Permanent Street Address

Phone

City, State, Zip

Rhodes State Student Email

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

	2022-2023 FAFSA	Complete your 2022-2023 FAFSA online at www.FAFSA.gov and mark that you are unable to provide parental data before you sign and submit it to the US Department of Education.
	Student Statement	Provide a typed signed personal statement that summarizes the unusual circumstances and why you should be considered an independent student for financial aid purposes.
	Two Third-Party Statements	Submit a minimum of two statements from a third-party organization or individual (teacher, clergy, social worker, courts, or medical personnel). These statements must be on official letterhead. If letterhead is not possible, the statement must include a telephone number and address where the individual can be reached at their work. These letters will be from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of your situation and can offer their opinion of your circumstances. Letters from relatives and friends are not considered third-party.
	2022-2023 Independent Verification Documents	Submit the independent verification worksheet and all applicable documentation as requested on the verification worksheet.
	Proof of Income	Documentation showing how you are providing for yourself (<i>paystubs, etc.</i>) If you do not have proof, submit a brief explanation of how you are providing for yourself. (<i>Living with a relative, roommate who provided assistance with housing, federal assistance – WIC, TNAF, etc.</i>)
	Additional Supporting Documentation relevant to your appeal (optional)	Records you believe would be beneficial to your case.

NOTE: If you have a previously approved dependency override, you only need to submit an updated student statement and new verification documents to our office. We do not need new third-party statements or proof of income.

AFFIRMATION STATEMENT

My signature below indicates the information on this form and the supporting documents I have provided are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand if I do not provide supporting documentation or if my appeal form is incomplete, my appeal will be denied. I understand that I may submit only one appeal per academic year and that the decision of the Financial Aid Administrator is final. I understand that the Financial Aid Administrator reviewing my appeal reserves the right to contact third-party professionals who provided my supporting documentation. I agree to submit additional documentation should the Financial Aid Administrator request more information.

Student's Signature

Date

