

Financial Aid

2026 – 2027 Unusual Circumstance – Youth At Risk of Homelessness Petition

Financial aid regulations assume that families have the primary responsibility for meeting the educational cost of students. If you are considered a dependent student according to the financial aid definition, your aid eligibility is determined by using parent income and asset information in addition to your information. Dependent students are therefore required to provide parental information on their aid application in order to be considered for financial aid. However, students who are experiencing housing insecurity and are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness and self-supporting, can request that the Financial Aid Office determine their independent student status based on these circumstances.

A. Student’s Information

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Student ID Number (10 Digits)
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B. Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Definitions

Please review the following definitions *prior* to submitting your petition to ensure you meet the criteria:

- **Unaccompanied** – when a student is not living in the physical custody of their parent or guardian.
- **Homeless** – lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing.
- **At risk of being homeless** – when a student’s housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate. For example, a student who is being evicted or has been asked to leave their current residence and has been unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing.
- **Self-Supporting** – when a student pays for his or her own living expenses, which includes paying for fixed, regular, and adequate housing.

C. Unusual Circumstance

Students who are unaccompanied and homeless, or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless, qualify for a homeless youth determination and will be considered independent students for financial aid purposes. On a separate piece of paper, please submit a signed statement which addresses each of the following:

- Explain the circumstances of your housing insecurity. Be sure to incorporate how you meet the unaccompanied and homeless definition, or self-supporting and at risk of homelessness definition.
- **At-Risk of Homelessness:** If you are not homeless, but are at risk of homelessness, you will need to explain how you are “self-supporting”. Please include information related to all sources of income, including any public benefits you may be receiving.
- Provide additional supporting documentation such as court documents, police reports, eviction notices, etc.

* We strongly recommend that this request be received by the Financial Aid Office no less than 2 weeks before your last day of class for the term you are enrolled. Requests received on your last day of class or incomplete may not be reviewed. The law does not permit aid offices to process any requests submitted after your classes end for the term. Please note: your last day of class may be earlier than the posted end of term.

D. Certification and Signature

I certify that all of the information reported on this petition is true and complete.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.

 Student’s Signature Date

Office use only: Approved PJ based on unusual circumstances Denied

NOTES: _____

Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____