2015-2016 Request for Dependency Override

A student who does not meet the federal criteria for independent status on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may submit a request for a Dependency Override if unusual or extenuating family circumstances such as parental estrangement, abuse or abandonment have occurred. The Dependency Override request will be considered on a case by case basis and a new request must be submitted each academic year, even if a previous request was approved in a prior year.

Student Name ___________________________________________  Student ID _________________________

According to the Department of Education, the following conditions **DO NOT** qualify as unusual circumstances meriting a Dependency Override.

1. Parents refuse to contribute to your education
2. Parents are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification
3. Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes; or
4. Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency

Please indicate the reason for your request:  
- [ ] Abuse  
- [ ] Abandonment  
- [ ] Estrangement

In order for your request to be considered, please submit the following information:

- **A personal statement.** Attach an explanation that describes the reason you should be considered for independent status based on your unusual or extenuating family circumstances. The statement must include information regarding both of your parents.

- **Documentation.** Examples of acceptable documentation may include a court order, police report, death certificate(s) or letters from unbiased third parties that have first-hand knowledge of your circumstances. Unbiased third parties may include: counselors, teachers, clergy, community groups, government agencies, medical authorities, social workers, or prison administrators. A letter from a third party must be signed, dated and on official letterhead. **Two sources of documentation must be submitted.** If you fail to provide the supporting documentation your request will not be considered.

Your request will be reviewed within 10-15 business days and a decision will be posted to your StarNET account. Please note that during peak processing times the response time may be longer. If approved, the financial aid office will post a correction to your FAFSA application to update your status as a result of the Dependency Override. However, if your request is denied you must provide parental information on your FAFSA application. The decision on this request is final and may not be appealed.

**Certification**

By signing below, I certify the information submitted with this request to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that purposely providing false or misleading information for the purpose of obtaining financial aid may result in loss of aid, fines, imprisonment or all of the above.

Student Signature _______________________________  Date ____________________________

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