

2023-2024 Dependency Status Override Request

Use this form to request a re-evaluation of your financial aid dependency status

Student's Name (Last, First, MI)

Student ID/ Star ID

Student's Email Address

Student's Phone Number

You must complete the following steps:

1. Determine Eligibility
2. Submit the required documentation listed for each item you checked.
3. Submit a signed statement explaining your situation and any verifying documents.

Write the student's name and student/star ID on the top of every additional page submitted

1. Determine Eligibility

You are considered an independent student for financial aid purposes if you meet any ONE (or more) of the following criteria at the time you first completed and signed your 2023-2024 FAFSA.

- You were born before January 1, 2000
- You are married
- Both of your biological or adoptive parents are deceased
- You are a veteran or active duty in the U.S Armed Forces
- You have a child or children for whom you provide more than 50% support
- You have dependents who live with you **and** receive more than 50% support from you
- You are admitted into a master's or doctorate program
- You were a ward of the court or in foster care at any time from age 13 or older
- You were declared by a court in your state of residence to be an emancipated minor

If you do not meet any one of the criteria mentioned above, you can NOT be considered Independent if:

- Your parents are unwilling to assist you financially
- You consider yourself financially independent from your parents
- You live in a different residence than your parents
- Your parents are unwilling to provide information during the application process
- You are in a disagreement with your parents
- You claim yourself on your federal income tax return (or your parents do not claim you on theirs)

While these circumstances may commonly indicate the independence of an individual, the United States Department of Education has specifically stated they do NOT qualify a student for Independent status. Schools are prohibited from granting a dependency override on these conditions.

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Northland Community and Technical College is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and educator.

Please return completed form to:
Northland – Financial Aid Office
1101 Highway One East
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Student's Name (Last, First, MI) _____

Student ID/ Star ID _____

2. Check the boxes that apply and submit the corresponding documentation

- Your family situation is unsafe** – This is the result of physical abuse, emotional abuse, or drug or alcohol abuse
 - Letter from you explaining the unusual circumstance or situation in detail
 - Two letters (on official letterhead) explaining the situation in detail from separate objective third-party individuals such as a minister, social worker, psychologist, counselor, teacher, doctor, lawyer, or another counseling professional

- You were previously married and now are divorced/widowed**
 - A letter explaining why you believe you should be considered independant
 - Copy of divorce decree or death certificate
 - Must show self-sufficiency (income, bills, etc.)

- Your custodial parent has died and the other natural parent is still living** - You, however, have not had contact with or received any financial support from the living parent for a significant period of time.
 - Letter from you explaining the estrangement situation with your parent(s) in detail – provide the name and last known address of non-custodial parent
 - A copy of the death certificate for the deceased custodial parent
 - A letter or statement from an objective third party (legal counsel, counselor, clergy) which supports your claim that

3. Additional required documentation for ALL requests

- A written statement detailing the circumstances regarding your relationship with both biological and/or legally adoptive parents. Include specific dates of events that caused your separation from your parents; where you have lived since separating from your parents and your sources of income.
- If you worked in 2021, attach a 2021 IRS Federal Tax Return (including Schedule 1, 2, and/or 3, if applicable) **and** all of your 2021 W2 Forms

By signing this form, I certify all information reported on this form and within the enclosed documentation is complete and correct. I understand that providing false or misleading information may result in a \$20,000 fine, a prison sentence, or both, according to the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, Section 490(a). Any false or misleading information is subject to cancellation of all Federal financial assistance.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Financial Aid Office Use Only

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	Reason:
Financial Aid Officer Signature	Date	Financial Aid Director Signature
		Date

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This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities, consumers with hearing or speech disabilities may contact us via their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service by dialing 711 (toll-free nationwide).