



Office of Financial Aid  
 Dutchess Community College  
 Orcutt Student Services Center/ Room 104  
 (845) 431-8030/Fax (845) 431-8603  
 Email: [financial-aid@sunydutchess.edu](mailto:financial-aid@sunydutchess.edu)  
[http://www.sunydutchess.edu/admissions/financial\\_aid/](http://www.sunydutchess.edu/admissions/financial_aid/)

**Request for Clarification: Dependency Status**

We are unable to continue processing your 2010-2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) until documentation of your dependency status is received by the DCC Office of Financial Aid. Please carefully read and complete this form. You must also provide any supporting documentation requested. Incomplete forms or missing documentation will result in a processing delay for your financial aid application. **NO FEDERAL OR STATE FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AWARDED UNTIL THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETE.**

Name:	Student ID Number: A
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**Section I**

Please check the YES/NO Boxes for the questions below:

Question	YES	NO
You were born before January 1, 1987?		
You are married?		
You are enrolled in a graduate or professional educational program?		
You are currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?		
You are a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?		
At any time since turning age 13, both parents were deceased, you were in foster care or were a dependent or ward of the court?		
You are/were an emancipated minor?		
You are/were in legal guardianship?		
You have legal dependents other than a spouse?		
You have been determined to be an unaccompanied youth who is homeless?		

**If you have answered YES to one of the questions above you are considered an Independent Student, please go to Section II. If you answered NO to all of the above questions please go to Section III.**

**Section II: (After Completing Section II, Please Complete Section IV)**

**ATTENTION:** If you answered yes to the following, please complete the appropriate documentation as outlined below and submit all requested documentation

<b>Orphan/Ward of the Court/Foster Care</b>	Please provide documentation to support your status. <b>A)</b> If both of your parents are deceased, please submit copies of the death certificates. <b>B)</b> If you were in foster care or a ward of the court, please provide documentation from the foster care/social service agency, detailing your case information including dates of care provided
<b>Homeless or Unaccompanied Minor</b>	Complete the Unaccompanied Youth and Homeless Verification Form
<b>Emancipated Minor</b>	If you are a New York State resident, there is no legal emancipation process in the state. If you feel you should be considered as an independent student based on your circumstances, please contact the Office of Financial Aid and request an application for a Dependency Override.  If you are not a New York State resident, please provide a copy of the court's decision that you an emancipated minor according to the regulations and process of that state.
<b>Legal Guardianship</b>	Please provide documentation of legal guardianship
<b>Veteran of U.S. Armed Forces</b>	Please provide a copy of your DD-214 Form

**Section III: (After Completing Section III, Please Complete Section IV)**

You did not meet the federal criteria for independency status as outlined on the 2010-2011 FAFSA. You dependency status will be revised to Dependent. Be aware that the DCC Office of Financial Aid will be requiring additional paperwork to complete your FAFSA.

2010-2011 Dependent Verification Form **(Can be Download from our Financial Aid Website)**

Parent's 2009 Federal Tax Return & W-2s **(Please makes copies we can keep)**

Student's 2009 Federal Tax return & W-2s **(Please makes copies we can keep)**

FAFSA Signature Page **(Can be Download from our Financial Aid Website)**

Documentation of Mother's & Fathers' Date of Birth **(Please makes copies we can keep)**

Copies of Mother's & Fathers' Social Security Cards **(Please makes copies we can keep)**

Documentation of Parental Martial Status & Date **(Please makes copies we can keep)**

Parent's State of Legal Residence & Date **(Please write a letter stating state residency)**

**The following circumstances are not considered viable reasons for independency status: 1 )** You do not reside with your parents, **2)** your parents refuse to pay for your college education, **3)** your parents do not claim you on their tax return, **4)** your parents are not financially able to pay for your college education, **5)** you were married AFTER you submitted the FAFSA, or **6)** you do not want your parents' assistance to pay for college.

**If you have circumstances described below you will want to complete a Petition for Dependency Status Review. (Can be Download from our Financial Aid Website)**

Students who are estranged from their parents due to **extenuating or unusual circumstances** (i.e. abuse, family alcoholism, drug abuse, etc.) which can be documented by an objective third party (i.e. high school or college counselor, social service agency official, pastor or clergy member, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.) may qualify.

**Section IV:**

SIGN AND DATE

I certify that all information reported on this form and any attachments is true, complete and accurate.  
False statements or representations will be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid.

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Signature (Student) Date

**RETURN THIS FORM & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO:**

Dutchess Community College  
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID  
53 Pendell Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1595  
FAX: (845) 431-8603