



**2024-2025
Dependency Override Appeal**

9

Student's Name

Student's MSU Net ID

MSU ID (9 digit)

Under Federal law your family is primarily responsible for paying for your college expenses. In **very** limited situations Federal law may allow us to consider a dependent student as independent (for financial aid purposes) when unusual conditions exist. Please note: ****Appeals cannot be processed until we receive ALL requested documents.**

Examples of unusual conditions where you may be unable to provide parental data include:

- Your parents are incarcerated; or
- You have left home due to an abusive family environment; or
- You do not know your parents location, are unable to contact them, and you are not adopted.

Not all situations are considered unusual. The following would not be considered valid situations:

- You do not live with your parents, or you are self-sufficient; or
- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- Your parents do not claim you (the student) as an exemption on their income taxes.

****Verification of your FAFSA information must be completed before adjustments can be made. Regularly check your Eligibility Requirements on your MSU myState and your MSU email address to see documents requested and/or if you need to submit additional documentation. Your appeal will be DELAYED if ALL documents requested are not submitted to our office.**

New Appeals	Provide documentation listed in both Section A and Section B.
Updating Prior Appeals	Provide documentation listed in both Section A and Section C. Prior appeals are those that <u>we approved for you in the previous award year.</u>

Section A – Required Documentation for New and Updated Dependency Override Appeals:	
1. 2024-2025 MSU Dependency Override Form	Download and complete requested 2024-2025 forms at https://www.sfa.msstate.edu/forms/ Forms must be <u>SIGNED and completed</u>
2. 2024-2025 MSU Family Size Verification Form	
3. Student <u>SIGNED</u> statement	Detail your appeal reason Include specific details and dates situation occurred
4. 2022 Financial Information (tax filers & non-tax filers)	
Required if: You <u>DID</u> file <u>2022</u> federal taxes (<u>Tax</u> Filers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of all Schedules filed (1, 2, 3, A, C, D, K-1) <u>AND</u> • <u>Signed</u> 2022 IRS Federal 1040 Tax Return: OR • Request 2022 Federal Tax Return Transcript online at: https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript OR call 1-800-908-9946
Required if: You did <u>NOT</u> file <u>2022</u> federal taxes (<u>Nontax</u> Filers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Signed</u> 2024-2025 MSU Independent Student Nontax Filer Form; <u>AND</u> • Copies of all 2022 W-2 Forms and/or 1099 Forms

Section B – Required Additional Documentation for New Appeals only:

- ❖ Death of One parent or Custodial parent, and no contact with non-custodial parent; OR
- ❖ You no longer live with your parents due to unsafe home environment (i.e. – physical, emotional, drug, or alcohol abuse); OR
- ❖ You no longer live with your parents due to abandonment, incarceration, estrangement or mental incapacity

1. Copy of death certificate or full obituary

2. Copy of student's birth certificate

3. **Minimum** of two detail, **signed** letters (professional and/or personal):

Professional References

- **Signed**, dated, and listed on agency letterhead
- Law enforcement, guidance counselor, social worker, clergy, teacher, etc.

Personal References (cannot be a family member):

- **Signed, dated, and notarized**
- MUST explain how they know you
- MUST explain how long they have known you
- MUST explain how they know about your situation

Section C – Required Documentation to UPDATE Prior Appeals only:

1. **Section A documents** required (including new 2024-2025 Dependency Override Appeal form)
2. Student **signed** statement **updating** us on the nature of your situation for which we approved the appeal
 - a. Indicate the **current status as of today** – (situation is unchanged, reconciliation has occurred, etc.)
 - b. You cannot use a previous student statement

Certification Statement: (SIGNATURE MUST BE HANDWRITTEN; electronic signature or initials are not acceptable).

By signing this form, I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the best of my knowledge.

Warning: Purposely giving false or misleading information may result in a fine, imprisonment, or both.

Student's Signature _____

Date _____