

**McDowell Technical Community College
Office of Financial Aid**

2011/12 PETITION FOR DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE

Student Name: _____ Telephone: _____
Student ID # _____ or SSN _____ Birth Date: _____
Address: _____

This form is to be completed by dependent students who do not meet the federal criteria for “independent” status but wish to have their circumstances reviewed in hopes of being declared independent. This form and all requested documentation should be returned to the MTCC Financial Aid Office. Incomplete requests and/or requests without supporting documentation will not be considered. All requests and documentation will be kept confidential. While all requests will be reviewed, completing this form and providing documentation does not guarantee a change in dependency status. Once your request and documentation has been reviewed, you will be notified of the results in writing.

Please note that **none** of the following conditions qualify as unusual circumstances meriting a dependency override:

1. Parents refusal to contribute to the student’s education
 2. Parents unwillingness to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification
 3. Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
 4. Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency
- (Federal Student Aid Handbook, Application and Verification Guide—Chapter 2)

Examples of situations where petitions **may** be approved include abusive family environment or abandonment, parental incarceration or severe estrangement.

Instructions

I. Letters of Explanation

To be considered for a change in dependency status, the following letters must be submitted to the MTCC Financial Aid Office

1. Personal typed statement explaining your unusual circumstances—should include the last date and nature of parent contact, the location of your parents and how you are presently supporting yourself.
2. Statement from a relative or close personal friend summarizing your unusual circumstances including any knowledge they have of your relationship with your parents.

3. Two statements from third party professionals (e.g. teacher/counselor, pastor, landlord, social worker) summarizing your unusual circumstances. These statements should include any knowledge they have of your relationship with your parents and your ability to support yourself.

II. Additional Supporting Documentation

Please attach copies of any relevant supporting documentation (e.g. court documents, legal documents, DSS reports or police reports)

III. FAFSA

If you have completed your FAFSA for 2011/12, please return this form with all required documentation to the MTCC Financial Aid Office.

If you have not completed your 2011/12 FAFSA, please obtain the PDF version of the FAFSA on the www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov website. Complete the FAFSA with your personal information, sign the form and return it with this form and your supporting documents.

IV. Certification

I certify that the information provided and any attached documentation are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also realize that purposely giving false information on this form or in any accompanying documentation may result in a \$20,000 fine, prison sentence or both. Further, I understand that if financial aid funds are awarded to me based on this petition and then any portion is determined to be untrue, that I will be responsible for the overpayment of funds immediately.

Signature: _____ Date: _____