2021-2022
Dependency Status Override Request

Please complete, sign and return this form to:
St. Cloud Technical and Community College
Financial Aid Office
1540 Northway Drive
St Cloud, MN  56303

Name (last, first, middle initial)  Tech ID #

Phone Number  E-mail Address

Step 1: Determining Eligibility
For determining eligibility for Federal Student Financial Aid, a student is automatically Independent if:

• the student was born before January 1, 1998
• the student is working on a master’s or doctoral degree or graduate certificate program
• the student is married
• the student is an orphan (both parents are deceased)
• the student is a veteran of the US Armed Forces
• the student is currently serving on active duty in the US Armed Forces for purposes other than training
• the student has a child or children who receive more than half support from the student
• the student was in foster care or was a ward of the court at any time since the student turned age 14
• the student has dependents who live with the student and receive more than half support from the student
• the student is an emancipated minor as determined by a court in the student’s state of legal residence
• the student’s high school or school district homeless liaison determined that the student was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless (since July 1, 2020)
• the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by HUD determined the student was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless (since July 1, 2020)
• the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determined the student was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless (since July 1, 2020)

*Students not meeting one or more of these criteria are considered DEPENDENT by the US Department of Education.*

If you do not meet one of the above options, as a student, you are NOT considered Independent if:

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

*While these circumstances may commonly indicate the independence of an individual, the US 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.*
Students may request a Dependency Override IF…

- you can document a continued relationship with your parent(s) is physically and/or emotionally detrimental
- your parent(s) permanently reside in a country with which the United States does not maintain normal diplomatic relations

If you have an unusual circumstance, continue to Step 2

**Step 2: Mark the item and provide documentation for your situation**

___ I am estranged from my parents due to irreparable family breakdown (ie: abuse and/or neglect)

**Include:**

TWO letters from a professional third party from whom you have sought support and/or advice specific to your claim.

*A professional third party is defined as a person from whom you have sought assistance and who has no financial or personal interest in the outcome of this application. (ie: high school counselor, teacher, therapist, physician, clergy). Relatives, employers, friends, etc., cannot supply this information.*

___ I have been supported by an agency (ie: child protective services) for reasons other than personal choice.

**Include:**

A letter from the agency supporting your request.

___ My custodial parent is deceased and I have had no contact or support from my non-custodial parent since (date) __________.

**Include:**

A copy of the death certificate for the custodial parent AND
Provide name of non-custodial parent: ________________________________ AND
Provide last known address of non-custodial parent ___________________ AND
Attach one letter from a professional third party from whom you have sought support and/or advice.

*A professional third party is defined as a person from whom you have sought assistance and who has no financial or personal interest in the outcome of this application. (ie: high school counselor, teacher, therapist, physician, clergy). Relatives, employers, friends, etc., cannot supply this information.*

___ My parents live in a country with which the United States does not maintain normal diplomatic relations.

**Include:**

Name of country: ________________________________

Proof of parent(s) permanent residency in that country (ie: copy of parental passport)

**Step 3: 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.

___ A completed 2021-2022 FAFSA Application

If submitted online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov), indicate when it was submitted: ______________

If you have not yet submitted the application at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov), contact the financial aid office for a 2021-2022 paper FAFSA

___ If you worked in 2019, attach a 2019 IRS Tax Return Transcript

___ If you worked in 2019, attach a copy of all your 2019 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 ________________

*St. Cloud Technical & Community College is a member of Minnesota State and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. ADA accessible facility. Affirmative action/equal opportunity educator/employer.*