



2023-24 REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT STATUS

Student Information:		
Last Name: _____	First Name: _____	MI: _____
LCC ID #: _____	Email Address: _____	

The student financial aid system is based on the premise that your parents have the primary responsibility to assist you with your college education until you are at least 24 years old, even if that assistance is only to provide their information for your FAFSA. Federal regulations allow the Lower Columbia College financial aid administrator to consider extraordinary cases on an individual basis. In unusual circumstances, using professional judgment, the financial aid administrator *may* determine that you should be considered independent for financial aid eligibility based on information you provide. This decision is final and cannot be appealed.

Per Department of Education rules, the following conditions do not qualify as unusual circumstances and therefore, cannot be used as reasons to make a student independent from their parents:

- Your parents are refusing to monetarily contribute your education
- Your parents unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for income verification
- Your parents do not claim you as a dependent for income tax purposes
- You live on your own and are financially self sufficient

If any of these conditions apply to your situation, you cannot be declared independent from your parents. However, you may be eligible for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan only. If you wish to be considered for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, complete the Parents Refusal to Provide Information form available in the LCC Financial Aid Office.

Provide the following information and documentation:

Step 1: Complete and submit Verification Worksheet and all documents, if requested by the Financial Aid Office.
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Step 2: Unusual Circumstance	Required Documentation
<input type="checkbox"/> Married since filing FAFSA (your spouse's information & income is required to be added to the FAFSA)	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage certificate, AND <input type="checkbox"/> Spouses 2021 IRS Tax Transcript from the IRS, or 2021 1040/1040A/1040EZ form, OR 2021 W2's, if not filing
<input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment by parents, abusive family environment that threatens your health or safety, or you are unable to locate both of your parents.	<input type="checkbox"/> Your detailed and signed statement regarding the nature of the relationship with your parents, who you live with, and how you support yourself, <u>AND</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Official letter or documentation from one of the following that can attest to your situation with first-hand knowledge: counseling professional for which you have received ongoing treatment, school official, teacher, clergy, doctor, police reports, court reports or legal documents from the court
<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied Youth/Homeless. This means you lack permanent, consistent, and adequate housing. It includes, temporarily living with other people because you have nowhere else to go, living in substandard housing, i.e. no water or electricity, living in emergency or transitional shelter, living in motels or campgrounds, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, or any public or private place not designed for humans to live in	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter from school district liaison, homeless shelter, homeless service provider/agency, financial administrator from another college, off campus mental health professional or social worker, doctors, or clergy
<input type="checkbox"/> Both parents deceased since filing the FAFSA	<input type="checkbox"/> Death certificates and/or obituary notices
<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy and the baby's estimated due date is on or before 6/30/2024	<input type="checkbox"/> Doctor's note with estimated due date, AND <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of income of income of at least \$350.00 per month (does not include financial aid), OR <input type="checkbox"/> TANF or other agency statement of income

I certify that the facts presented on this and the attached documents are true and correct.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____