

Orange Coast College
Student Financial Aid Office

Petition for Change to Independent Status
2009 - 2010

Name: _____ ID #: _____
 Last First Middle

Address: _____ Phone: _____
 City State Zip

Please read the following before completing this form.

Under federal law your family is primarily responsible - to the extent they are able - for paying for your college expenses. To determine how much your family can afford to pay towards your college expenses, we must collect your financial information and if you are a dependent student, we must also collect your parents' financial information.

Under **very** limited circumstances, an otherwise dependent student may be able to submit the FAFSA without parental information due to special circumstances.

Examples of special circumstances where you may be able to submit your FAFSA without providing parental information include:

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

Not all situations are considered a special circumstance. The following are situations that would **not** be considered a special circumstance:

- Your parents do not want to provide their information on your FAFSA; or
- Your parents refuse to contribute to your college expenses; or
- Your parents do not claim you as a dependent on their income taxes; or
- You do not live with your parents.

Student financial aid administrators are given the authority to make students independent by professional judgment if the student is from an adverse situation.

If you are in an adverse situation, please complete the Student Statement and Third Party Certification.

If you are a homeless youth, please complete the last two pages only.

Once all the information is complete, make an appointment to see a Specialist at www.orangecoastcollege.edu – click on Financial Aid – click on Make an Appointment.

If you are a homeless youth, please complete the information below:

Current Mailing Address of Student (if none, please list name, phone number, and mailing address of current contact):

What is your parents' address? _____
Street

City	State	Zip
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When did you last live with your parents? (month/year) _____

When was the last contact with your parents? (month/year) _____

Do you currently receive financial support form your parents? (yes/no) _____

- If no, when was the last time that you received support? (month/year) _____
- I yes, please describe the kind of financial support that you received. Include cash, gifts, medical insurance, and room and board while living at home.

Please describe how you supported yourself in 2006, 2007 and 2008. Indicate the amount and the source of your income.

2006 \$ _____ Source _____

2007\$ _____ Source _____

2008 \$ _____ Source _____

Please provide verification of your living status by having this document completed.

I am providing this letter of verification as a (check one, then list name, phone number, and other contact information):

A K-12 School District Liaison: _____

A director or designee of a HUD-funded shelter: _____

A director or designee of a RHYA-funded shelter: _____

As per the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84), I am authorized to verify this student's living situation. No further verification by the Financial Aid Administrator is necessary. Should you have additional questions or need more information about this student, please contact me at the number listed above.

This letter is to confirm that _____ was:

Check one:

an unaccompanied homeless youth after July 1, 2008

This means that, after July 1, 2008, _____ was living in a homeless situation, as defined by Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Act, and was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth at risk of homelessness after July 1, 2008.

This means that, after July 1, 2008, _____ was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, provides for his/her own living expenses entirely on his/her own, and is at risk of losing his/her housing.

Please be assured that any information that you submit to us will be kept in the strictest confidence and will only be used to determine your student financial aid status.