

Dependent Appeal Review of Extenuating Circumstances

The Federal methodology assumes that the primary responsibility for paying for college cost rest with the family. Federal regulations permit the college to exercise professional judgment in determining if unusual circumstances can be documented to make the student independent for federal financial aid purposes. On a case-by-case basis, the Office of student financial aid will exercise professional judgment in determining if unusual circumstances exist and if adequate documentation has been provided.

WHAT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES?

Please Read Carefully!

You cannot file an appeal if your circumstances represent any of the categories listed below.

1. A parent is refusing to provide information or contribute to your education.
2. A student who does not want to ask parents for information.
3. A student who is and has been on “their own” for several years.
4. Parents who do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
5. A student who has been previously considered independent of receiving financial aid.
6. A student who is divorced when filing a FAFSA and does not meet one of the current definitions of independence for 2026-2027.

Complete the Dependent Appeal and attach documentation to the appeal. Circumstances must be validated through documentation. Failure to provide adequate documentation will result in the request being denied.

Retain this instruction sheet and keep copies of your documents for your records. The Office cannot return documents or provide copies at a later date. Place your Lee College ID Number on all documents.

This form must be submitted under your Campus Logic account at: lee.verifymyfafsa.com

Dependent Appeal

Lee College ID: _____

Student's Name (Last, First, M.I.): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Street: _____ Apt/Suite No.: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

I. Explain the unusual circumstances that make it impossible for both of your parents to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). **Attach an additional sheet, if necessary.**

A. Explain why you are unable to provide your mother's information.

B. Explain why you are unable to provide your father's information.

C. Explain how you are meeting your educational and living expenses without parental assistance.

Attach any additional statements to the back of the form, if needed.

Dependent Appeal

Lee College ID: _____

PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION

II. Secure written documentation from other appropriate persons and/or agencies, confirming the details as identified in the appeal. **Attach to this form.**

Statements detailing the history of the student/parent relationship should be provided by:

- An adult relative (24 years of age or older); specify relation to you.
- A professional, such as a high school official, physician, minister, attorney, social service agency.
Documents: death certificate, police report, etc. Documentation must be on official letterhead.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

III. *I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided for this appeal is true and correct.*

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

WARNING

Purposely giving false or misleading information
may result in a fine, jail sentence or both.

For Office Use Only

Reviewed By: _____

☐ Accepted ☐ Denied

PJ: _____

Notification Date: _____