# Unusual Circumstance Form 2026-2027

**Student Name** _____ **Student PID (Pxxxxxxxxx)** _____

**Student Signature Required** (electronic signature not accepted) _____ **Date** _____

On your 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you indicated that you have Unusual Circumstances that would prevent you from including your parents on the FAFSA.

Our office must verify your status as an independent student. Please answer the following questions below and **submit this form along with the required documents listed to our office.**

- On or after age 13, were both of your biological or adoptive parents deceased?
  - ☐ Yes. If yes, **submit** both your biological or adoptive father's and mother's death certificates.
  - ☐ No. Continue with this form.
- On or after age 13, were you in foster care?
  - ☐ Yes. If yes, **submit** formal documentation of your status as a foster child at age 13.
  - ☐ No. Continue with this form.
- On or after age 13, were you placed in the custody of a state, county, or court system?
  - ☐ Yes. If yes, **submit** formal documentation of your status as a ward of the court at age 13.
  - ☐ No. Continue with this form.
- As of today, are you an emancipated minor or are you in legal guardianship determined by a court?
  - ☐ Yes. If yes, **submit** court documentation of your current legal status of emancipation or legal guardianship.
  - ☐ No. Continue with this form.
- Were you adopted prior to age 13 and your adoptive parent is living?
  - ☐ Yes. If yes, you will be required to submit a correction to your FAFSA and invite your parent(s) to contribute, providing their information on your FAFSA.
  - ☐ No. Continue with this form.

If none of the previous situations describe your circumstances, you must be considered a dependent student. In this case, you must **UPDATE** your FAFSA and invite your parent(s) as contributors.

If you answered 'no' to all questions above and are unable to provide parental information, please contact our office to review options for financial aid. **If there are extenuating circumstances between you and your biological/adoptive parents, please give a brief, but specific description of your current relationship with both your father and mother.**

Attach an additional typed or written statement, if necessary. You may be asked to complete a Dependency Appeal Form and provide additional documentation of your circumstances.

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Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships
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Athens, OH 45701-2979

**DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DOCUMENTS BY EMAIL. PLEASE USE OUR SECURE UPLOAD PORTAL OR SEND BY MAIL OR FAX.**
https://www.ohio.edu/financial-aid/forms

Questions?
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