



## REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF DEPENDENCY STATUS

Academic Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal student aid programs are based on the principle that students and their families should be the primary source of support for college education. A student who does not meet any of the criteria listed under Step 3 of the FAFSA is considered a dependent student and must provide parent financial information. Under certain extreme circumstances a financial aid office can override a student's dependency status.

### Circumstances considered for granting a dependency override:

- Student's removal from parent's home due to situation that threatened the student's health or safety.
- Incapacity of parents to provide information due to medical condition or inability to be contacted.
- Other extreme circumstances that can be sufficiently documented.

### Examples of documentation to attach, as applicable to the situation:

- Legal documentation - such as arrest reports, court papers, Child Protective Services records, correctional facility records
- Medical documentation - such as death certificate, hospital records
- Statement regarding knowledge of your parental situation from an unrelated professional – such as a school official, minister, social worker, physician, lawyer, law enforcement officer. Statement should include the person's full name, title or position, phone number and signature.

### Circumstances that are NOT grounds for a dependency status change:

- Student is self-supporting and is struggling to pay for college
- Student has ongoing disagreements with parents
- Parent does not claim student for income tax purposes
- Parent does not contribute to student's education
- Parent/ step-parent refuses to provide information for FAFSA or for verification

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Have you already filed a current FAFSA? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Were you granted a dependency override last year by Odessa College? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

### On the back, please provide as much detail as possible about your relationship with your parents.

Attach an additional sheet if needed. Be sure to include:

- Last time of contact and frequency of contact with each biological parent for the last 3 years
- Circumstances of relationship with parents and why you cannot provide parent financial information
- Your living arrangements for the last 3 years and how you support yourself

