



2024-2025 FINANCIAL AID DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE REQUEST FORM

Federal financial aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility for meeting the educational costs of students. If you are considered a dependent student according to the federal financial aid definition, your aid eligibility is determined by using parent information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signatures to be considered for financial aid.

If you meet at least one of the following criteria, you are considered an independent student:

- Born before January 1, **2000**;
- Married;
- Enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program (beyond a bachelor’s degree) in **2024-2025**
- A veteran of the Armed Forces (or serving on active duty);
- Have children who receive more than half of their support from you;
- Have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you.
- At any time since age **13**; both parents deceased, been in foster care or dependent or ward of the court.
- An emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence;
- In legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence;
- At any time on or after July 1, **2023** – your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless – the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless – the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.

Occasionally, due to unusual circumstances such as an abusive family environment, students may not be considered dependent. If you can document why you should be considered independent for an unusual circumstance, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information. Your status as an independent student cannot be based solely on your parents’ unwillingness to contribute to your educational expenses or if you demonstrate total self-sufficiency. Thorough documentation is required to explain and verify your situation.

Please note that submitting this request does not guarantee approval of the appeal and that there is no guarantee an approved appeal will result in more or different types of aid awarded to you. Dependency overrides are not automatically renewed each year; if your request is approved and you plan to attend school during a subsequent aid year, you must complete a request form for each new year.

Section A: Student Information

Last Name

First Name

M.I.

Student ID Number (EMPLID)

@email.vccs.edu

Phone Number

Student Email Address

Section B: Please complete the information below. *Note: The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to request additional documentation, if needed.

Complete the following questions and provide all of the required documentation. Incomplete submissions will not be considered. Make sure your name and EMPLID number are clearly marked on all attachments.

1. Did you file a dependency override request at Brightpoint Community College prior to the **2024-2025** academic year?

YES, but my request was denied **or** **NO**, I have not filed a previous request. (If you checked this box, go to question 2 and complete the remainder of this request form.)

YES, the request was approved. (If you checked this box, provide a narrative below detailing your current situation, and then skip to question 6 to read and sign the certification statement. Please also attach a signed copy of your most recent Federal Income Tax Return to this completed form.)

