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2026-2027 INDEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS VERIFICATION FORM

SECTION A: STUDENT INFORMATION

STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT ID: _____

Your application has been selected for verification. We are required by federal law (34 CFR, Part 668) to compare the information from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the information on this form.

PLEASE NOTE:

- ✓ We cannot continue processing your financial aid until all required financial aid documents have been submitted.
- ✓ All required documents must be uploaded to your Financial Aid Student Self-Service Portal.
- ✓ We will update your FAFSA, if needed, based on the information provided on this form.

SECTION B: DEPENDENCY

YOUR STATUS FOR FINANCIAL AID AS AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT IS BASED SOLELY ON YOUR ANSWER TO QUESTIONS # 5 ON THE FAFSA. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REQUIRES THAT YOU SUBMIT LEGAL DOCUMENTATION VERIFYING YOUR RESPONSE (S). PLEASE SUBMIT THE DOCUMENTATION NOTED BELOW.

- ☐ **VETERAN OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES** - Copy of your DD-214 Form from the military or your active duty call up form.
- ☐ **EMANCIPATED MINOR** - Copy of your Emancipated Minor Determination from the court verifying you were an emancipated minor immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.
- ☐ **LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP** - Copy of your Determination of Legal Guardianship from the court verifying you were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. NOTE: Legal custody is not the same as legal guardianship. If your court document states legal custody, you must correct the FAFSA to include your biological or adoptive parent(s) information.
- ☐ **ORPHAN** - Copy of both biological/adoptive parents' Certificate of Death verifying you were an orphan at any time since you turned age 13 even if you are now adopted. NOTE: You are not an orphan if one parent is deceased and the whereabouts of your other parent is unknown.
- ☐ **FOSTER CARE** - Copy of your foster care status from the Department of Children Services verifying you were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13 even if you are no longer in foster care as of today.
- ☐ **WARD OF COURT** - Copy of your Determination of Ward of Court status from the court or a letter from a social service agency verifying you were placed in custody of the court at any time since you turned age 13 even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. NOTE: A ward of the court is not someone who is incarcerated.

SECTION C: CERTIFICATION

By typing my name below, which serves as my electronic signature, I certify the information on the form and any associated documents submitted are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and that there is no forgery. The information supplied on this form supersedes that which was provided on the FAFSA. I understand that any false statements or misrepresentation may be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid, and I may be subject to a fine, imprisonment or both, under provisions of the United States Criminal Code.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____