

2020-2021
Request for Independent Status (NEW)



Office of Financial Aid
500 College Drive, Lake Jackson TX 77566
Phone: 979-230-3377 Fax: 979-230-3543
Email: finaid@brazosport.edu

Student Name

Phone #

Student ID

Instructions: In order to process a dependency override, a history of family estrangement from both parents and/or dysfunction regarding both parents must exist. This form can be used to request a review of extenuating circumstances regarding your dependent status. Examples of estrangement or dysfunction include, but are not limited to abuse, abandonment, drug abuse, and parent incarceration. These extenuating circumstances must be documented by an objective third party (*i.e. high school counselor, social services agency official, pastor or clergy, mental health professional, law enforcement officer, teacher, etc.*) to qualify. **The following examples will not make you independent:**

- *Parents refuse to financially contribute to the students' education.*
- *Parents refuse to fill out information necessary to complete the FAFSA*
- *Parents do not claim student as a dependent on their tax return.*
- *Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.*

Submit form to the Financial Aid Office for processing. Documentation submitted by fax or email will not be accepted.

STEP 1: FAFSA

Fill out your 2020-2021 FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Do not submit this form until you get confirmation from Brazosport College that your FAFSA has been received.

STEP 2: CHECKLIST

Submit **ALL** the following documents along this form. Request will not be processed without all documentation, additional documentation may be required.

- Submit a typed and signed letter describing in detail the extenuating circumstances that make you independent from your parents. You must describe your current relationship (even if it is non-existent) with your parents. You must address the following:
 - The nature of your relationship with your parents
 - Provide the date and place of your last contact with your parents
 - How you have been supporting yourself
- Submit two signed statements from the objective third party as described in the instructions above (teacher, counselor, etc.) who are familiar with you're the situation verifying/substantiating the reasons for your independent status request. The statements must include contact information such as address and telephone and must be on letterhead.
- Attach a copy of your 2018 IRS Tax Return Transcript or signed copy of your 2018 Federal Tax Return; copies of any W2 forms if applicable.

STEP 3: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES

Certification Statement: Your signature on this document confirms your acknowledgement of the following:

- ✓ *The information submitted for review is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.*
- ✓ *Providing false information may result in reduced eligibility, repayment of aid, or both.*
- ✓ *Processing time may take 10-15 business days for your request.*
- ✓ *You have read each section and have provided the required documentation; and realize that more may be required upon request.*

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Brazosport College Financial Aid Office

Received by: _____

Date: _____