This appeal is used to request a dependency override for federal financial aid. It is used after you have filed your FAFSA and indicated that you have special circumstances which prevent you from providing parental information.

The Federal Student Aid Program determines a student’s status as dependent or independent by the answers the student provides on the eight questions listed in Step 3 of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students are classified as dependent or independent because federal student aid programs are based on the principle that students (and their parents or spouse) are considered the primary source of support for postsecondary education. The Dependency Override process is used to address on a case by case basis a student who claims to be independent but does not meet the federal criteria. The student must demonstrate a unique and extenuating circumstance.

The following provides information and explains the procedure used to determine a student’s eligibility for a “Dependency Override.” A Financial Aid Administrator will review the student’s appeal by examining the supporting documentation provided by the student and will either approve or deny the student’s request and notify the student in writing. The decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.

THE FOLLOWING IS NOT CONSIDERED A UNIQUE AND EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE
• Self-sufficiency of the student
• Parent’s unwillingness to complete the parent section of the FAFSA
• Parents refuse to contribute to the student’s education
• Not residing at the parent’s residence
• Not being claimed as a dependent on your parent’s tax return
• Student’s desire for grants instead of loans

CIRCUMSTANCES GIVEN CONSIDERATION WHERE PARENTAL SUPPORT HAS BEEN TERMINATED
• Documented abandonment
• Parental drug abuse
• Parental mental incapacity
• Physical or emotional abuse
• Severe estrangement from parents
• Parental Incarceration

Dependency Override Appeal Process

Step #1: Complete your 2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid and have it sent to NSCC (School Code 008677).

Step #2: Complete this form using an ink pen.

Step #3: Attach a typed personal letter of appeal explaining your request. Please provide details of your separation from your parents.
• In your own words tell us why you are requesting a dependency override.
• Describe your relationship with your parents and include any circumstances surrounding the situation
• Include information about how you provide for yourself.
• If you are or have received support from friends and relatives, you must describe the nature of the support.
• Make sure your name, Student ID, date, and signature are included in the letter.

Step #4: Have at least two individuals complete the “Dependency Override Documentation” section of this appeal.
• These individuals should be adults who have direct knowledge of the situation, who are not relatives.
• One individual must be a professional whom you have sought treatment or assistance. Professionals include guidance counselors, doctors, lawyers, family counselors, social workers, law enforcement officers, clergy members, etc.
• If a family member, who is not your parent, has raised you or is currently supporting you, submit an additional statement from that family member.
• The Dependency Override Documentation must be the original form completed and signed by each individual.

We understand the sensitive nature of these circumstances; therefore all documentation received by our office will be kept confidential.
Prior Petition for Dependency Override Approval

Check here if you have been approved for a Dependency Override Appeal in 2013-2014 aid year by our office and your situation has not changed. You do not have to resubmit the documentation you previously provided. Just complete this page of the form and submit to the Financial Aid Office.

Parent Information: Father

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________

Parent Information: Mother

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________

Student Information:

1. Did anyone claim you on their federal tax return for 2012? ____Yes ____No 2013? ____Yes ____No

   If yes for 2012, provide Name: ____________________________ Relationship to you: ____________________________
   If yes for 2013, provide Name: _______________________________ Relationship to you: ____________________________

2. What are your current living arrangements (who do you live with)? ____________________________

3. Current Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Expenses</th>
<th>Monthly Amount</th>
<th>How Paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical/Insurance</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal/Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. When was the last time you lived with your parent(s)? Month/Year:___________________________

5. When did your parent(s) last provide any form of support? Month/Year:___________________________

Student Certification:

I certify that all of the information provided on this form and all attached documentation is true and correct. I also understand that it will be used to override federal regulations regarding my dependency status. I fully understand that to falsify any information in order to receive Federal Title IV funds is a federal offense and can be punishable by fines and/or other penalties. I understand that if my situation changes in any way, if I reside with my parents or receive any financial support from them, that I must report this information to the Financial Aid Office.

_____________________________________________  __________________________
Student’s Signature                          Date

For Financial Aid Office Use Only:

Outcome: ____ Eligible for Dependency Override  ____ Not eligible for Dependency Override

Corrections Entered in Banner (RNAOVxx): Date ____________

Comments: ______________________________________________________________________

Financial Aid Authorization: ____________________________________________ Date:____________
TO BE COMPLETED BY A PROFESSIONAL WHO HAS WORKED WITH THE STUDENT’S FAMILY.
(EXAMPLES OF PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE INCLUDE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR, TEACHER, SOCIAL
WORKER, CLERGY, PHYSICIAN, LAWYER, or FAMILY THERAPIST).

The above named student has applied for financial aid at Northwest State Community College and has indicated that he/she is unable to provide us with parent information due to extenuating family circumstances.

Please provide a brief statement regarding your knowledge of the student’s family history and relationship with parent(s).
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you believe that the student is unable to provide parent(s) information for financial aid purposes?
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Last date the student: 1. Received financial support from parent(s)? ________ 2. Lived with parent(s)? ________

How long have you known the student? __________________________________________________________

What is your professional relationship with the student? __________________________________________________________

Name of Business or Employer: __________________________________________________________

Business Address: ____________________________  Business Phone #:________________________

Your name (please print): ____________________________  Your Title: ____________________________

Your Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________
TO BE COMPLETED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ADULT AND HAS DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF THE STUDENT’S SITUATION, WHO IS NOT A RELATIVE. THIS PERSON MUST NOT LIVE AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS THE STUDENT.

The above named student has applied for financial aid at Northwest State Community College and has indicated that he/she is unable to provide us with parent information due to extenuating family circumstances.

Please provide a brief statement regarding your knowledge of the student’s family history and relationship with parent(s).
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you believe that the student is unable to provide parent(s) information for financial aid purposes?
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Last date the student: 1. Received financial support from parent(s)? _________ 2. Lived with parent(s)? _________
How long have you known the student? __________________________________________________________________________________________
What is your relationship with the student? __________________________________________________________________________________________

Your name (please print): _______________________________  Your Phone #: ________________________________
Your physical address: ________________________________________________________________
Street Number and Street Name  City  State  Zip

Your Signature: ___________________________________________  Date: ________________________________