

This form is used when a student does not meet the federal definition of an independent student but has extenuating circumstances. Independent status appeals are reviewed on an individual basis and must be completed every year.

One Stop Student Services
105 Behmler Hall
600 East 4th Street
Morris MN 56267-2132

Complete this form using black or blue ink and return it to the One Stop with all required documentation. Include your name and student ID number on any additional documents. Processing of your financial aid is on hold until this information is received.

320-589-6046
Fax: 320-589-1673
ummonestop@morris.umn.edu

Student Information

Preferred Name	Student ID Number
Primary/Legal Name (last, first, middle initial)	Phone Number

Independent Status Appeal

If you were considered an independent student for financial aid purposes at a previous school, you do not automatically qualify for independent status at the University of Minnesota Morris. Be aware that parental disagreements and refusal of the parent or step-parent to provide support or information are not considered unusual circumstances for the purpose of achieving independent status for financial aid. Being self-supporting, in and of itself, is not a sufficient reason for independent status.

If you have extenuating circumstances that would allow you to receive financial aid as an independent student choose the appropriate option below.

- Initial - Independent Status Appeal
- Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov.
 - Submit a personal letter describing your extenuating circumstances.
 - Submit third party documentation supporting the extenuating circumstances you describe (e.g. documents from a high school counselor, case worker, social worker, clergy, or other professional) that confirms your situation warrants independent status.
 - Submit copies of your 2019 federal tax return (1040 and schedules 1, 2, and 3) and 2019 income documents – W-2s, 1099s, Schedule C/EZs, Schedule Fs, and Schedule K-1s.
- Renewal - Independent Status Appeal
- Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov.
 - Submit a personal letter stating your independent status has not changed.
 - Submit copies of your 2019 federal tax return (1040 and schedules 1, 2, and 3) and 2019 income documents – W-2s, 1099s, Schedule C/EZs, Schedule Fs, and Schedule K-1s.

Certification

By signing this form, I certify that all the information reported is complete and correct.

Student Signature	Date
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Office of Financial Aid Use Only

<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible Current EFC _____ Revised EFC _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Updated award <input type="checkbox"/> Sent revised notice	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible Reason _____
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Independent Status Definition

The federal government has specific standards to determine who has independent status and is not required to provide parental information when applying for financial aid.

To be considered independent, you must meet at least one of the following conditions:

- You were born before January 1, 1998.
- You are married.
- You currently serve on active duty in the armed services for purposes other than training.
- You are a veteran of the United States Armed Services.
- You have or will have children who receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.
- You have or will have other dependents who receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.
- At any time since you turned age 13, both of your parents were deceased, you were in foster care, or you were a dependent or ward of the court.
- You are/were an emancipated minor.
- Someone other than your parent or stepparent has legal guardianship of you as determined by a court in your state of legal residence.
- You were determined to be an unaccompanied homeless youth by your high school district liaison, the director of an emergency shelter program, or the director of a transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or after July 1, 2020.
- You were determined to be an unaccompanied homeless youth at risk of being homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless by the director of a runaway or homeless center/shelter or the director of a transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or after July 1, 2020.