NATIONAL & GLOBAL
FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

2021-2022 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: APPEAL FOR DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE FORM

If you feel you should be considered independent after answering "no" to all questions regarding your dependency status in Step 3 on the FAFSA, you may request a review of your circumstances. Complete this form and submit it to the Financial Aid Office along with all requested supporting documentation. Circumstances are reviewed per award year. The timeframe for which we will consider exceptions for the 2021-2022 award year is July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. We must have a complete, valid FAFSA on file before we can review special circumstances and re-evaluate your student financial aid package.

Important: Unaccompanied Homeless (or Self-Supporting and at Risk of Being Homeless) Youth Determination

- If you are 21 years of age or younger, please review the last three dependency status questions on the FAFSA regarding an unaccompanied homeless (or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless) youth determination. If appropriate, make a correction to one of them.
- If you are: 1) 21 years of age or younger and do not have and cannot get documentation showing the determination, or 2) 22-23 years of age, *and* 3) feel you meet the qualifications of an unaccompanied homeless (or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless) youth determination, please complete the Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Determination form.

Student Identification

First Name _____ M.I. ____ Last Name _____

Student ID _____ **OR** Last 4 Digits of SSN _____ ( ) – Phone Number _____

Valid Circumstances: Indiana Wesleyan University considers the following as valid reasons for granting a dependency override. Please check the box next to the reason and basis for this appeal.

- ☐ You have fled an abusive (physical or emotional) family environment that threatened your health or safety and have little or no contact with your parents
- ☐ You were abandoned by your parents, do not know where they are or how to contact them, and were not adopted after the abandonment
- ☐ Your parents are incarcerated or mentally incapacitated

Please note that the following are **NOT** valid reasons for granting an override.

- Your parents refuse to contribute to your education or are unwilling to provide information for FAFSA or verification
- Your parents do not claim you as a dependent for income tax purposes
- You demonstrate total self-sufficiency and/or are unwilling to seek financial assistance from your parents

Required Documentation: You must submit three (3) letters detailing your circumstances. These letters must provide enough detailed information for our office to make an informed determination of your circumstance and must also include contact information from the individuals writing the letters.

- A letter from you, the student, detailing your situation
- A letter from a professional adult (pastor, guidance counselor, social worker, etc.)
- A letter from another adult (family member or friend) that knows and understands the situation

We understand that your situation is personal. We hold your information in the highest confidentiality. Only authorized financial aid personnel or others deemed necessary by law have access to your information.

Certification and Signature: I certify the information provided is complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that changes made to my student financial aid eligibility based upon the information provided may affect only the student financial aid received at Indiana Wesleyan University for the 2021-2022 award year.

Student Signature* _____ Date _____

* Must be an actual "wet" signature. A digital signature or typed font signature is not acceptable. This form may be completed and "wet" signed via a tablet or smartphone with PDF signing capability using a stylus pen. You may need to download an app to access this feature.

IMPORTANT: *Indiana Wesleyan University's Financial Aid Office will honor special circumstances documentation submissions made no later than two weeks prior to when the student ceases attendance for the applicable award year. We cannot guarantee a review of submissions made after this date, and no consideration will be given to submissions made after the student ceases to attend.*

Mail, fax, email, or deliver the completed worksheet to the Financial Aid Office using the contact information listed below.

EMAILED FORMS MUST BE SENT FROM THE IWU STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNT

Financial Aid Office, IWU National & Global
866.498.4968 option 3
1900 West 50th Street
765.677.2516
Marion, IN 46953-9393
765.677.2030 Fax
indwes.edu
IWUfinaid@indwes.edu