2014-2015 Dependency Status Appeal Form

Student Name ___________________________  Student ID  900 ___________________________

Best contact phone number: ___________________________  Email Address: ___________________________@students.ipfw.edu

Dependency Status

The federal government sets the criteria for determining the dependency status of financial aid applicants. Students who do not meet at least one of the dependency questions asked on the FAFSA are considered financially dependent for financial aid purposes, and they must provide parental information and signatures on the 2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Renewal FAFSA.

The federal government recognizes that there are some extenuating circumstances which would make it impossible for a student to obtain parental information. These circumstances include but are not limited to physical or emotional abuse; estrangement; abandonment; parental drug abuse; incarceration; mental incapacity; death of custodial parent and no contact with non-custodial parent. The unwillingness of your parent(s) to provide parental data on your FAFSA as well as a parent(s) unwillingness to help pay for college is not acceptable reason to appeal your dependency status.

A decision letter will be sent to you as soon as evaluation of your appeal is completed. Please be aware it may take 2-4 weeks for a decision to be made. Missing or incomplete documents will be returned and delay the process.

Reason for Dependency Review

If any of the following circumstances applies to your situation, please indicate below with a check mark. We will need to receive all listed information.

- Death of both parents or death of custodial parent and no contact with non-custodial parent
  Required Documentation
    - Typed personal statement outlining the reason for an appeal, including specific information and dates
    - Standard V1 Verification Worksheet, if not already required to submit
    - IRS Data Retrieval or federal Tax Return Transcript, if not already required to submit
    - Copy of death certificates or obituary

- I no longer live with my parent(s) due to an unsafe home environment. (This may be due to physical or emotional abuse; drug and alcohol abuse)
  Required Documentation
    - Typed personal statement outlining the reason for an appeal, including specific information and dates
    - Standard V1 Verification Worksheet, if not already required to submit
    - IRS Data Retrieval or federal Tax Return Transcript, if not already required to submit
    - Supporting statements from two professional adults who are not family members, friends, or employers which verify the family circumstances you’ve described in your personal statement. Examples of acceptable professionals would be clergy members, guidance counselors, teachers or professors, doctors, family counselors, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers

- Currently not living with parent(s). (This may be due to estrangement, abandonment, incarceration, or mental incapacity)
  Required Documentation
    - Typed personal statement outlining the reason for an appeal, including specific information and dates
    - Standard V1 Verification Worksheet, if not already required to submit
    - IRS Data Retrieval or federal Tax Return Transcript, if not already required to submit
    - Supporting statements from two professional adults who are not family members, friends, or employers which verify the family circumstances you’ve described in your personal statement. Examples of acceptable professionals would be clergy members, guidance counselors, teachers or professors, doctors, family counselors, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers
Renewal for Dependency Status Appeal Checklist

Use the checklist below to ensure you have submitted all necessary documentation for a dependency appeal renewal.

☐ Typed personal statement which updates the Financial Aid office of the severe family situation for which the appeal was approved and the current status of the situation (for example: unchanged; reconciliation has occurred).

☐ Standard V1 Verification Worksheet, if not already required to submit

☐ IRS Data Retrieval or federal Tax Return Transcript, if not already required to submit

Certification Statement – Read and Sign Below

I hereby certify that all information contained in this application for independent status, including the personal statement and documentation, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any fraudulent documentation. I understand that if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false statements or fraudulent documentation, my appeal will be denied and information may be forwarded to the Dean of Students for possible disciplinary action according to the IPFW Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct.

Choose one:

☐ I have filed my 2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or renewal FAFSA

☐ I have not filed my 2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or renewal FAFSA

_______________________________________________

Student’s Signature

______________________________

Date Signed