



2021-2022

## Verification of Emancipated Minor/Legal Guardianship

*Serving Richmond and Scotland Counties*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
P O Box, Route, or Street City State Zip

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** On the FAFSA you answered "yes" to the question, stating that you are an emancipated minor or you were a "ward" under legal guardianship. Additional information is needed for us to determine whether you meet the criteria to answer "yes" to one of these questions, thereby making you independent for financial aid purposes. **Your financial aid cannot be processed until this information is received.**

**Please mark the category below that pertains to your specific situation. Be sure you answer any questions that follow.**

**Emancipated Minor**

Before reaching the age of majority in my state (usually age 18) I was released from the control of my parent or guardian as determined by a court of law in the state of which I was a resident of at the time.

**Note:** Emancipated does NOT mean you pay for your own bills and your parents do not support you.

1. The date the court declared you an emancipated minor (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your age at the time \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:** A copy of the court papers, signed by a judge, verifying your status as an emancipated minor. *If you do not have court papers, you cannot be considered independent for financial aid purposes.*

**Under Legal Guardianship of Someone Other Than Parent**

Upon reaching the age of majority in my state (usually 18), someone other than my biological or adoptive parent(s) was appointed as my legal guardian by a court of law in the state of which I was a resident at the time.

**Note:** Legal guardianship is NOT the same as legal custody. If you were in legal custody of someone, you would answer "no" to the FAFSA questions 54 and/or 55.

1. Date the court-appointed someone other than your parent as your legal guardian (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your age at the time \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of person(s) appointed as your legal guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you appointed a guardian because the court deemed you incompetent/incapable of administering your affairs: (Yes/No) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:** A copy of the court papers, signed by a judge, verifying that someone other than your parent was appointed your legal guardian. *If you do not have court papers, you cannot be considered independent for financial aid purposes.*

**Neither category above pertains to me** – Please complete the following items:

- Go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) to update your FAFSA, question 54 and/or 55, to "NO"
- Include parental information on the FAFSA, if you have not already done so

### Certification and Signature

If you are the student, by signing this application you certify that you

- (1) will use federal and /or state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education,
- (2) are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- (3) do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it,
- (4) will notify your college if you default on a federal student loan and
- (5) will not receive a Federal Pell Grant for more than one college for the same period of time.

If you are the parent or the student, by signing this application you certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked, to provide information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form. This information may include U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

You also certify that you understand that **the Secretary of Education has the authority to verify information reported on this application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies.**

If you electronically sign any document related to the federal student aid programs using an FSA ID (username and password) and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_