appeal for a dependency override
2017–2018

STUDENT INFORMATION

Last Name         First Name         M.I.        NJIT ID

Student’s Street Address (include apt. no.)        NJIT Email

City         State         Zip Code        Phone Number

DEPENDENCY STATUS

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) requires dependent students to provide parental data. If you believe that you cannot provide parental data due to extenuating circumstances, you may request a Dependency Override. Please complete this form and provide the documentation as requested (additional documents may be requested).

The circumstances listed below singly or in combination; do not qualify as an extenuating circumstance and do not merit a dependency override.

• Your parents do not want to provide their information on your FAFSA or to complete the verification process; or
• Your parents refuse to contribute to your education; or
• Your parents do not claim you as a dependent on their income taxes; or
• You do not live with your parents or you demonstrate total self-sufficiency.

Please select the option that applies to you:

☐ Initial Request: If you have never been approved for a Dependency Override in prior academic years at NJIT, please complete Sections A and C.

☐ Renewal Request: If you have previously been approved for a Dependency Override at NJIT, please complete Sections B and C.

SECTION A: INITIAL REQUEST

1. Submit the 2017-18 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov without parental data. If your appeal is approved, we will update your FAFSA.

2. Write a personal letter with details about your extenuating circumstances. The letter must be signed and dated (electronic signatures not acceptable). The letter must address the following:
   a. Explain why you cannot provide parental data on the FAFSA.
   b. Explanation of your extenuating circumstances and the date these circumstances arose.
   c. The whereabouts of your biological/legal father. Are you in contact with your father and when did you have your last contact with your father.
   d. When did you last live with your biological/legal father?
   e. The whereabouts of your biological/legal mother. Are you in contact with your mother and when did you have your last contact with your mother.
   f. When did you last live with your biological/legal mother?
   g. Your living arrangements for the past year and who do you live with currently. How did you support yourself during this time (provide all income)? Did anyone provide any type of financial support to you during this period?
3. Signed/dated letters from at least two third parties who have detailed knowledge of your circumstances. At least one letter (signed and dated) must be on official letterhead from a community member like teacher, counselor, medical professional, social worker, clergy etc. The letters must include the individual’s relationship to you, how long he/she has known about your circumstances, his/her understanding of your circumstances and their contact information including telephone number and address. Copies of appropriate court documents or agency letters (on agency letterhead) are also acceptable.

4. If you filed 2015 taxes and did not use IRS Data Retrieval tool in the FAFSA, please provide 2015 IRS Tax Return Transcript (if not previously submitted). If you did not file a tax return, please submit the IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter for the 2015 tax year. For instructions to obtain these documents, please see IRS Form 4506-T under “Downloadable Forms” (2017-18 Forms) on http://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/forms/.

5. Copies of all 2015 W-2 forms.

6. Did anyone claim you on either 2015 or 2016 Federal Income Tax Returns?
   ☐ No    ☐ Yes
   
   If yes, Person’s name: ___________________________ Relationship to you: ___________ Year claimed: ____

   SECTION B: RENEWAL REQUEST

   1. Submit the 2017-18 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov without parental data. If your appeal is approved, we will update your FAFSA.
   
   2. Write a personal letter with details about your current situation and any changes in your situation since you were originally granted a dependency override. The letter must be signed and dated (electronic signatures are not acceptable). The letter must address the following:
      
      a. Explain why you cannot provide parental data on the FAFSA and the nature of relationship with your parent(s).
      b. An explanation of the extenuating circumstances and your continued estrangement from the parents.
      c. You must also reaffirm that your extenuating circumstances still exist and have not changed from last year.
      d. Your living arrangements for the past year and who do you live with currently. How did you support yourself during this time (provide all income)? Did anyone provide any type of financial support to you during this period?
   
   3. Did you resume living with your biological/legal parent(s) in the past or current year? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   
   4. If you filed 2015 taxes and did not use IRS Data Retrieval tool in the FAFSA, please provide 2015 IRS Tax Return Transcript (if not previously submitted). If you did not file a tax return, please submit the IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter for the 2015 tax year. For instructions to obtain these documents, please see IRS Form 4506-T under “Downloadable Forms” (2017-18 Forms) on http://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/forms/.

   5. Copies of all 2015 W-2 forms.

   6. Did anyone claim you on either 2015 or 2016 Federal Income Tax Returns?
      ☐ No    ☐ Yes
      
      If yes, Person’s name: ___________________________ Relationship to you: ___________ Year claimed: ____

   7. Did your biological/legal parent(s) provide you with any support in cash or contributed towards your educational expenses including room and food from 2015 to now? ☐ No   ☐ Yes

   SECTION C: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

   By signing this form, I certify that all of the information reported on this form is complete and correct. I understand that incomplete or missing documents can cause delays in processing. I agree to provide any other documentation necessary if requested. I also authorize the Financial Aid Appeals Committee to seek information from other NJIT offices when appropriate.

   Warning: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to prison, or both. **Computer generated signatures are not acceptable.**

   ____________________________________________  _______________________________________
   Student Signature                                Date