

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DEPENDENCY STATUS

According to the Department of Education you are considered a dependent student **until you:**

- **Reach the age of 24.**
- **Marry**
- **Have a dependent child of your own that you provide *more than half* support for.**
- **In the graduate program at this university.**
- **Veteran of the armed forces.**
- **Ward of the court (both biological parents deceased).**

The Department of Education will not release parents of this obligation without strictly enforcing the necessary required documentation.

You do not qualify for independent status because your:

- Parents refuse to contribute to your education.
- Parents are unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification.
- Parents do not claim you as a dependent for income tax purposes.
- Parent(s) are incarcerated
- Situation demonstrates self-sufficiency.
- Status is emancipated.
- Status is divorced.

However should there be extenuating circumstances such as:

- Are both of your biological parents deceased? If yes, you can check yes to "Ward of the Court" (**both death certificates will be required**) and proceed as independent.
- Is there an abusive family environment? If yes, provide a police report or statement from the Department of Family and Children Services.
- Were you abandoned by your parents? If yes, provide court documentation.
You will also be required to provide statements from your pastor, counselor, doctors etc.

Should there be circumstances beyond the questions on this Request for Dependency Review you will need to request a time to speak to Sherry Robinson concerning this matter.

Otherwise you will be required to provide your parents information. If your biological parents are divorced and you do not live with or receive any support from either, you will be required to choose one (plus stepparents information) to file your application with.