



2020-2021 DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE REQUEST

NAME _____ KNUMBER _____

The US Department of Education has given the Office of Student Financial Aid guidance regarding situations that merit a dependency override. The definition of a dependency override is a dependent student's inability to submit parental information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) due to an unusual circumstance.

The circumstances below do not warrant a dependency override:

- You do not live with your parents
- Your parents do not claim you on their income tax returns
- Your parents do not provide you with monetary support
- You are totally self-supporting and self-sufficient

The following circumstances may merit a dependency override:

- An abusive family environment (e.g., sexual, physical, or mental abuse or other forms of domestic violence)
- Abandonment by parents
- Incarceration or institutionalization of both parents
- Parents lacking the physical or mental capacity to raise the child
- The whereabouts of parents are unknown or parents cannot be located
- Parents hospitalized for an extended period
- An unsuitable household (e.g., child removed from the household)
- Married student's spouse dies or student gets divorced

Processing time can take 3 weeks (4 weeks during peak times). All Dependency Override requests are reviewed and processed in the date and order in which they were received by our office. You will be notified by email, when your application has been processed. **Please check your TAMUK student email address for results or requests for additional information/documentation.**

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR ALL SITUATIONS:

- A personal letter explaining in as much detail as possible the reason you are separated from your parents. Your letter should include the whereabouts of your parents (if unknown, state "unknown"), last known contact you have had with your parents (this includes holidays and birthdays), your living arrangements over the past year(s) and who has supported you financially. Please note: if one of your parents has died, you can include a copy of the death certificate along with your appeal.
- Two letters from a professional individual not related to the student (i.e., counselor, social worker, teacher, clergy, police, etc.) that can attest to your situation. Please submit on organizations letterhead. **Note:** this letter cannot be from an individual employed at TAMUK.
- A completed, signed and submitted 2020-2021 FAFSA.

*** Additional documentation may be required after initial review. ***

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT AND SIGNATURE

I certify that the information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, and I have provided all supporting documentation where applicable.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

(Required)