

Student Name: _____

(Please Print)

Contact Info: _____

Phone Number

Email address



ROBERTS
WESLEYAN COLLEGE

2016-2017 Request for Independency

A student under the age of 24, even if living apart from parents, is considered dependent for federal aid, and parental income and asset information must be included on the FAFSA. However, when you completed the 2016-2017 FAFSA, you answered questions that suggest you may be considered independent for financial aid purposes. Roberts Wesleyan College's financial aid administrator may consider an independency override in documented unusual situations.

To determine your eligibility for independent status, Roberts Wesleyan College requires you to **provide proof** that you have an unusual circumstance that may meet the federal eligibility requirements for independent status for the following situations:

(Check the situation that applies to you)

- At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

Provide documentation from a reliable source such as a court document. If a court document is not available, provide certification from a school official, clergy member, or health official who is familiar with your circumstance.

- As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship?

Provide a copy of a court's decision evidencing a legal guardianship. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued. A Custody Agreement may NOT be sufficient evidence.

- At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did your high school or school district homeless liaison, OR the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, OR the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

Provide documentation from an appropriate authority (school district liaison, director of an emergency shelter, transitional living program, or homeless youth basic center) certifying that you are an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or (if applicable) at risk of being homeless.

- On or after July 1, 2015, were you not living in the physical custody of your parent or legal guardian and no longer have a relationship with your parent(s)?

- Did you report that you have Special Circumstances on your FAFSA, are unable to provide parental information, and request a Dependency Override?

Under Federal law, only the school financial aid administrator has the authority to decide whether or not you must provide parental information on your FAFSA. You will have to provide documentation to verify your situation.

-Provide written documentation from TWO reliable sources who are familiar with your family situation. Sources may include court or law enforcement documents, a letter from a clergy member, school counselor or social worker, and/or other relevant data from a reliable source that explains your unusual circumstance (other than a family member); AND

-Provide a personal signed statement explaining: (1) the nature of your relationship with both your mother and your father, (2) the location of both biological parents and when you last had contact with them, (3) why you cannot obtain information and/or support from your parents, and (4) how you support yourself financially. **Also provide documentation of your income** (ie. tax return, W-2's, current paystub).

After evaluation your unusual circumstances carefully, the Roberts Wesleyan College financial aid administrator will decide if you can proceed without parental data. The financial aid administrator's decision is final and can not be appealed to the Department of Education Federal Student Aid.

Note: choosing to live independently from your parents is not sufficient reason to be considered independent for federal aid purposes.

CERTIFICATION: MUST BE SIGNED TO BE CONSIDERED.

By signing below I affirm that the statements contained on this form are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am attaching documentation to substantiate the information provided.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE