



Dependency Status Appeal/Request Form 2023-2024

Student Name: _____	Student ID: _____
Student Email: _____	Telephone: _____
Year in School: _____	

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete this form in its entirety.
2. Provide the following documentation:
Copy of student 2021 Federal tax return transcript or copy of 2021 Federal income tax return or completion of the IRS Data Retrieval Tool and Verification worksheet(s) (enclosed)
3. Provide additional documentation related to your circumstance as indicated below.
4. Submit the completed form and all required documentation to the Hanover College Office of Financial Aid, 517 Ball Drive, Hanover, IN 47243 or electronically via MyHanover-administration-financial aid.
5. Please allow up to 6 weeks for a response.

Please note that this type of appeal must be completed on an annual basis.

► Dependency Status

The underlying principle of need analysis for federal financial aid is that parents have an obligation to finance the education of their child(ren) to the extent they are able. The analysis measures ability to pay, not willingness. If there are extenuating circumstances that have caused a break in the normal parent/child relationship, you may appeal to the Office of Financial Aid to have your status changed to independent; thereby, relieving your parent(s) of the responsibility of paying any part of your educational expenses. The unwillingness of your parent(s) to provide parental data on your FAFSA or to financially support your education, or your unwillingness to seek financial assistance from your parent(s) is NOT an acceptable reason to appeal your dependency status. Having sufficient resources to pay your own expenses is also not considered an extenuating circumstance for determining dependency status.

It is important to understand that a student who is declared independent as a direct outcome of this form would be considered independent at Hanover College only. The student will be notified in writing of the decision.

For your petition to be considered, you must not have been claimed as a tax exemption by any parent or stepparent in 2021. Your parent(s) or stepparent(s) may not have used you as the basis to file income taxes as "head of household," and you may not have lived with your parent(s) or stepparent(s) during 2022 or 2023.

If one of the following circumstances applies to your situation, please check the category and provide the required documentation.

-] My custodial parent has died and the other natural parent is still living. I have neither had contact with nor received any financial support from the living parent for a significant length of time (minimum of 2 years).

Required Documentation:

1. A copy of the death certificate of the deceased custodial parent,
2. Documentation of the custodial relationship (for example, a court document, a copy of the divorce decree, or other evidence the deceased was the custodial parent), and
3. A letter from an objective third party (i.e. minister, social worker, counselor, teacher, doctor, or other professional) on letterhead that supports your claim that you neither lived with nor received financial support from the noncustodial parent for a significant length of time of not less than 2 years.

-] I am currently living with adults who are neither a parent nor a sibling, and I have lived with these adults for two or more years.

Required Documentation:

1. A letter from you explaining the situation in detail,
2. A letter/statement from the adults regarding your living/support arrangements and circumstances requiring this arrangement, and
3. A letter from an objective third party (i.e. minister, social worker, counselor, teacher, doctor, or other professional) on letterhead that supports your claim that you neither lived with nor received financial support from the noncustodial parent for a significant length of time of not less than 2 years.

-] I have been separated from my parents due to an unsafe home environment. (Note: The separation may be the result of physical abuse, emotional abuse, or drug and/or alcohol abuse.)

Required Documentation:

1. A letter from you explaining the situation in detail, and
2. A letter from an objective third party (i.e. minister, social worker, counselor, teacher, doctor, or other professional) on letterhead explaining the situation in detail, or
3. One or more of the following:
 - a. Letter from an adult who is an **independent** third party (non-relative or non-friend) and who knows about the situation and can support your statement; i.e., parents of a friend, neighbor, or employer. The letter must include an introduction of the individual writing the letter and explain how he/she knows and can attest to the facts of the unsafe environment.
 - b. Copies of police reports
 - c. Copies of court reports
 - d. Documentation from a social service agency

-] Other Unusual Circumstances

Required Documentation:

1. A detailed, written explanation and supporting/corroborating documentation of your situation.

► Signatures/Certifications:

My signature below certifies that the information provided on this form is true. I agree to provide proof of the information if requested. I understand that there may be a penalty for providing false or misleading information.

Signature of Student

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY

SCPJ: _____ DO: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Original PC: _____ New AGI: _____ Medical/Legal PJ: _____

Original EFC: _____ New Tax Paid: _____ 7.5% of Original AGI: _____

Original AGI: _____ New PC: _____ Med Exp Doc: _____
(amount must be more than 7.5%)

Original Tax Paid: _____ New EFC: _____

Original Tax Rate: _____ %

Sch A Med: _____

Exp Doc – Sch A: _____
(must be positive to continue review)

Changes in Awards: _____

PowerFAIDS Actions:

- Verification Completed
- AGI Adjusted and Locked (FM Data Parent Info/Student Fin Screen)
- Taxes Adjusted and Locked (FM Data Parent Info/Student Fin Screen)
- Request EFC Adjustment and Lock (FM Data FAA Info Screen)
- Data Released (Pell Data History Info Screen)
- Aid Adjusted and Applied (Packaging Screen)
- Comment Made

Director's Signature

Date