

## VERIFICATION OF DEPENDENCY STATUS

(FAFSA QUESTIONS 53 THROUGH 55)

On the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you answered “Yes” to one or more of the following questions. You will need to provide additional documentation before we can continue to process your financial aid.

Dependency Status	Required Documentation
<b>Orphan</b> (Question 53) You had no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are now adopted.	Death certificates for both parents
<b>Foster Care</b> (Question 53) You were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today.	Legal documentation from your state of residency or a letter from DHS that shows that you were in foster care
<b>Ward of the Court</b> (Question 53) You were a dependent/ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. For financial aid purposes, incarceration does <b>not</b> qualify a student as a ward of the court.	Court Orders/Records
<b>Emancipated Minor</b> (Question 54) You are an emancipated minor <u>as determined by a court in your state of legal residency</u> . Note: This does not apply to you if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.	Court Orders/Records
<b>Legal Guardianship</b> (Question 55) You are in a legal guardianship <u>as determined by a court in your state of legal residency</u> . Note: This does not apply to you if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.  <b>You are not in a legal guardianship if you live with your parent(s) and a court did not enter an order regarding your dependency.</b>	Court Orders/Records

### What if I have lost my court documents?

Copies of documents may be obtained from the court or your caseworker if you no longer have them.

### What if I made a mistake and I was not a ward of the court or in foster care?

You will need to correct your FAFSA and include your parents’ information and signature.

### What if I have unusual family circumstances and have no contact with my biological parents?

Please complete an Apply Without Parent Request. ([www.clackamas.edu/forms](http://www.clackamas.edu/forms))

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will review the documents and determine if they support your dependency status based on federal regulations.