



## 2020-2021 Independent Status Verification

You answered YES to at least one of the dependency related questions in Step 3 of the 2020-2021 FAFSA application. **Provide documentation related to the applicable condition(s) to verify your dependency status.**

1. **Emancipation** – As of today, I am an emancipated minor as determined by a court in my state of legal residence. The emancipation must be determined by a court, **not** an attorney. Prior to reaching the age of being an adult in your state. Provide court documentation that verifies that you are emancipated.
2. **Legal Guardianship** – As of today, I am in legal guardianship as determined by a court in my state of legal residence. Provide court documentation that verifies you are/were in the custody of a legal guardian.
3. **Homelessness** – The federal government has determined that one of three sources can document your status as an unaccompanied youth who was homeless. You must submit a letter from one of the following sources:
  - a. Your high school or school district homeless liaison.
  - b. The director of an emergency shelter funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
  - c. Director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program.
4. If you do not meet any of the above conditions you are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes and must update your FAFSA application with your parent's information.