



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID  
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### Proof of Orphan/Ward of the Court Status

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Your status for financial aid as an independent student is based solely on your answer to question 5 on the FAFSA you are or were an Orphan or Ward of the Court at some point after you turned 13. Please submit legal documentation confirming that status. To verify your status as an Orphan or Ward of the Court, we require the following:

I am a/an (Please check one):

Orphan

A copy of both parents death certificates and a copy of your birth certificate. If your birth certificate shows only one parent’s name, submit a copy of that parent’s death certificate and your birth certificate. In order to be considered independent, your status as an orphan had to have occurred at some point on or after your 13th birthday.

Ward/Dependent of the Court or Foster Care

Court orders or a letter from your DSS (Department of Social Services) case worker indicating that you are/were a ward of the court or in foster care at some point since your 13th birthday.

Neither an Orphan or a Ward of the Court

Please complete the following items:

- Go to [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) to update your FAFSA, question 49, to “NO.”
- Include parental information on the FAFSA, if you have not already done so.

#### CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES

Your signature below certifies that all of the information reported on this form is complete and correct.

**WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date