OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
2013-2014
REQUEST FOR DEPENDENCY OVERRIDE

NAME: ____________________________________________ BCC ID#: ____________________

The U.S. Department of Education determines if a student is considered dependent or independent of their parents for financial aid purposes. How an applicant responds to the following questions on the FAFSA determines their status:

- Were you born before January 1, 1990?
- As of today are you married?
- At the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year, will you be working on a master’s or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, Ed D, or graduate certificate, etc.)?
- Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?
- Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?
- Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014?
- Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2014?
- 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?
- As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?
- As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2012, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2012, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2012, did 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?

If you answer “YES” to any of the questions, you are considered ‘Independent’. If you answer “NO” to all of the questions, then you are considered ‘Dependent’, and must provide parental information.

If you do not meet one of the conditions listed on the FAFSA, and believe there are extenuating circumstances, which may consider you ‘Independent’ of your parents, you may request an override by providing an explanation and statements of support &/or documentation.

PLEASE NOTE: The following is not eligible criteria to be an ‘Independent’ student:
- Parents refusing to contribute to your education
- Parents unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or documents for verification
- Parents not claiming you as a dependent for income tax purposes
- Student demonstrating total self-sufficiency
NAME: __________________________________________ BCC ID#: __________________

INSTRUCTIONS

To be considered for a dependency override, please complete the following.

1. Submit a 2013-2014 FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov (even if you do not have contact with your parent/s to obtain and submit their PIN).

2. Submit the following documents (if you were granted an override last year, please only submit a & b):
   a) 1st Party Statement (from student) explaining the situation within your family that prevents you from living at home
   b) 2nd Party Statement (from family, friend, etc.) explaining your family’s situation to the best of their knowledge
   c) 3rd Party Statement/Document (from School Counselor, Social Worker, Physician, Police Record, Court Documentation, etc.) explaining your family’s situation to the best of their knowledge or detailing the events that occurred to support the student’s need to request an override

3. Answer the following questions:
   a) Were you claimed as a dependent by anyone on their 2011 Federal Income Tax Return _____YES _____NO
   b) Were you claimed as a dependent by anyone on their 2012 Federal Income Tax Return? _____YES _____NO

4. Please submit this completed form and all required statements/documents to:

   Bergen Community College
   Office of Financial Aid
   Pitkin Education Building Room L-123
   400 Paramus Road
   Paramus, NJ 07652
   Office: 201-447-7148
   Fax: 201-612-9823

PLEASE NOTE: Keep a copy of this appeal and all documents for your records. The evaluation of your appeal is reviewed by a Financial Aid Committee and may take up to two weeks. You will receive notice of our decision by mail.

CERTIFICATION

I certify by signing this form that all information reported is complete and correct.

___________________________________________  ________________________
SIGNATURE                                      DATE