

## Dependency Override Request

EXCEPT IN UNUSUAL AND MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CAN BE DOCUMENTED, parents/family units have the primary financial responsibility in meeting educational costs, as measured by the federal Expected Family Contribution derived from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Following is a list of criteria. If you meet at least one, you can apply as independent (without parental data).

- Born before 1/1/99
- Married (as of the date of application)
- Graduate student working on a master's or doctorate program (N/A at RCC)
- Serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Have a child(ren) and provide for at least half their support
- Have a dependent for whom you provide over half their support through 6/30/23
- Since turning 13, both parents are deceased
- Since turning 13, was in foster care
- Since turning 13, was a dependent or ward of the court
- In legal guardianship now (if under 18) or were as of the last day of your 17<sup>th</sup> year
- An emancipated minor now (if under 18) or were as of the last day of your 17<sup>th</sup> year
- On/after 7/1/21, unaccompanied and homeless as documented or as self-supporting and at risk of being homeless as eligibly documented

If you do not meet any of the above criteria, but think you should be able to apply without parental information, review the following appeal criteria. If you believe you qualify, and provide the required documentation, RCC will review your appeal and notify you of our decision, for aid eligibility consideration at RCC.

### CRITERIA

- Parent(s) are **UNABLE\*** to participate in the application process or student is **UNABLE\*** to obtain parental information
- \*An unwillingness or inconvenience in providing information does not constitute being "unable."**

### DOCUMENTATION

- Submit an explanation of why you are UNABLE to provide parental data and why you should be considered "independent."
- Submit a minimum of two letters from as "official" as possible objective, responsible, third party adults who are knowledgeable of and willing to attest to the statements of the student.

-Letters should be on letterhead and clearly address, at a minimum, the following information:

- Who is the author and what is their relationship to the student?
- What situation exists between the student and the parent(s)?
- What is the time frame of that situation?
- Corroboration of other pertinent information presented by the student
- Signature, date, address, title and phone number of the author

-Examples of "responsible adults":

- Sponsor
- High School Counselor
- Court Official - Legal Document
- Teacher
- Social Worker
- Agency Representative - Official Documents

The FAFSA should be filed as soon as possible, even without a parent's signature. Then, appropriate documentation must be provided to the Financial Aid Office. Documentation will only be accepted and consideration for "independent" status given to a student who meets the above criteria. Further information may be requested. Decisions are school specific, apply to only one academic year, and are final. Please submit documentation to:

### **Financial Aid Advising**

3345 Redwood Highway, Grants Pass, OR 97527

**General Phone:** 541.956.7501 **Fax:** 541.471.3585

**Email:** Refer to [www.roguecc.edu/RCCfinAid/contact.asp](http://www.roguecc.edu/RCCfinAid/contact.asp)  
for your specific FinAid Advisor's email per your pathway