



Verification of Dependency Status

If you can answer “Yes” to one or more of the following questions you may be able to apply for aid as “Independent”. You must provide additional documentation before we can continue to process your financial aid.

Dependency Status	Required Documentation
Orphan – You have no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned 13	Copy of your birth certificate Death certificates for both parents
Foster Care – You were in foster care at any time since you turned 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 are/were in foster care
Ward of the Court – 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 not qualify a student as a ward of the court.	Court Orders / Records
Emancipated Minor – You were 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 Note: This does not apply to you if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, or if the decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.	Court Orders / Records
Legal Guardianship – You were in legal guardianship <u>as determined by a court in your state of legal residence</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 Note: This does not apply to you if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.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

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?

You may choose to review the “Dependency Override Request” worksheet in [Financial Aid “Policies and Helps”](#).

The Office of Financial Aid will review the documents and determine if they support your dependency status based on federal regulations. Submit financial aid documents to:

Financial Aid Advising

3345 Redwood Highway, Grants Pass, OR 97527

General Phone: 541.956.7501 **Fax:** 541.471.3585

Email: Refer to <https://web.rogucecc.edu/financial-aid/contact-your-financial-aid-advisor> for your specific FinAid Advisor's email per your pathway