

Verification of Independent Status 2026/27



Name _____ RCC ID _____

If you can answer “yes” to one of the categories below and provide the required documents, you may qualify as an Independent student for Financial Aid.

- _____ **Orphan** – You have no living parent (biological or adoptive) since you turned 13.
Documentation: A signed statement listing the names of your deceased birth or adopted parents, their death certificates, and your birth certificate.
- _____ **Foster Care** – You were in foster care at any time since you turned 13, even if you are not in foster care as of today.
Documentation: Records from the Department of Human Services (DHS) or court documents showing your foster care status.
- _____ **Ward of the Court** – A **court order** placed you under its care at any time after you turned 13, even if you’re no longer a ward of the court today. For federal financial aid, being incarcerated does not count as being a ward of the court.
Documentation: Official court orders or records
- _____ **Emancipated Minor** – A court in your state of legal residence declared you an emancipated minor. This does not apply if the court order ended before you became an adult or was not in effect when you became an adult.
Documentation: Official court orders or records
- _____ **Legal Guardianship** – A court in your state of legal residence placed you in legal guardianship and you are in legal guardianship now or were until you became an adult. This does not apply if the court order ended while you were still a minor. For federal financial aid, incarceration does not count as legal guardianship.
Documentation: Official court Orders or records
- _____ **Veteran or Active Duty** – You are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces or are currently serving on active duty for reasons other than training.
Documentation:
Veterans: a DD214 showing a character of service anything other than "dishonorable"
Active Duty: A signed and dated letter from your commanding officer that states all the following: your department, component and branch, that you are on active duty, and your expected release date.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Submit this form and supporting documents by email to your [FinAid Advisor](#) or in person with a FinAid Advisor in [Rogue Central](#). Physical copies can be mailed to: RCC Financial Aid 3345 Redwood Hwy Grants Pass, OR 97527.