

**TOWSON
UNIVER**

Appeal Instructions:

If you do not meet conditions 1-8 above, federal aid regulations normally require us to consider your parent(s)' financial resources when evaluating your financial need. However, if extraordinary circumstances make it difficult for you to obtain your parent(s)' financial data, we may be able to waive this requirement through this appeal process. If your appeal is approved, we will authorize you to apply for aid as an independent student, using only your income and asset information.

- x Examples of qualifying circumstances include estrangement from parents, abandonment, parental neglect, abuse, incarceration, threatening environment, and addiction or mental health problems, human trafficking or you have refugee or asylee status and are separated from your parents or your parents are displaced in a foreign country;
- x The following circumstances by themselves are not sufficient grounds to approve a dependency appeal: a) student doesn't live with parents, b) parents don't support student, c) parents don't claim student on taxes, d) parents don't want to provide financial data, or e) parents have low income (financial aid formulas automatically consider financial need).
- x If you were most recently supported by legal guardians, grandparents, other relatives, or friends, you cannot list their income data on your FAFSA. If either of your parents is still alive, you must still provide parent data unless we are able to approve your appeal.
- x We respect your right to keep your personal circumstances private, but we cannot approve appeals without complete and well documented explanations of your circumstances. Our policies and Federal student privacy laws (FERPA) ensure that your information

Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting Requirements: If you disclose information about

Student Section:

Student Name (Last, First):		TU I.D. #:
Phone Number:	E-mail Address:	
Mailing Address:		

- x Use this form to ask two objective third parties to submit statements to our office verifying their knowledge of your strained relationship with your parents. Relevant persons include, but are not limited to, school counselor, lawyer, clergy, medical or mental health professional, employer, court or legal official.
- x We must receive separate signed request forms and signed statements from both statement providers.
- x We will not share this information with the student's parents, and it is protected by federal student privacy laws (FERPA).
- x If you have any questions or difficulty meeting these documentation requirements, please call 410-4236.

Student Authorization:

I authorize

(N)