

2017-2018 Independent Status Certification Form

Last Name

First Name

MI

SWC ID Number

A. Independent Status Eligibility

On your FAFSA, you indicated that you qualify for one of the special independency conditions which is the only method qualifying you as an independent student for financial aid purposes. As a result, we must verify your independent status. Please complete the information below to verify your status. Check **ONLY** one box for the status that applies to you and attach a **PHOTOCOPY** of the required documentation **OR** check the **NONE** box if this does not apply to you.

Independent Status Eligibility Criteria and Supporting Documentation Required (Please check ONE box only)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	At any time since you turned 13, both your parents (biological or adoptive) were deceased . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of parent(s) death certificate(s).
<input type="checkbox"/>	At any time since you turned 13, you were in Foster Care . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of official court documentation confirming your status in Foster Care.
<input type="checkbox"/>	At any time since you turned 13, you were a Dependent/Ward of the Court . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of official court documentation confirming your status as a Dependent/Ward of the Court.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You are or were an Emancipated Minor before you reach(ed) the age of 18 in your state. Submit a PHOTOCOPY of the emancipation documentation from the court confirming your status with the effective date(s) of the status.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You are or were in a court ordered Legal Guardianship immediately before you reach(ed) the age of 18 in your state. Submit a PHOTOCOPY of the court documentation confirming your status in a legal guardianship with the effective date(s) of that legal guardianship AND a signed written statement from your legal guardian verifying you were in their guardianship until you reached the age of 18 in your state.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2016, from your high school or school district liaison that you were an Unaccompanied Youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of the determination documentation from the high school or school district liaison confirming this status.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2016, by the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that you were an Unaccompanied Youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of the determination documentation from the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by HUD confirming this status.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2016, by the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program that you were an Unaccompanied Youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless . Submit a PHOTOCOPY of the determination documentation from the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program confirming this status.
<input type="checkbox"/>	NONE of the above special independency considerations apply. You are considered a DEPENDENT student and MUST make the proper corrections to include parent information and signature on your FAFSA by logging on to www.fafsa.ed.gov . Once the corrections have been processed by the US Department of Education, you MUST visit the Southwestern College Financial Aid Office for notification of the changes.

B. Certification

Signing this form certifies that the information reported is complete and correct and that any false statement or failure to provide proof when asked may be cause for delay, denial, reduction or withdrawal of financial aid. **Warning: purposely giving false and/or misleading information may be cause for a fine, sentence to jail or both.**

Student Signature

Date

Submit this form to the Southwestern College Financial Aid Office or to any of the Student Services Departments at any of the Higher Education Centers. You should make a photocopy of this form for your records.