

## Financial Aid Office

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### 2026-2027 Unusual Circumstances- Request for Adjustment of Dependency Status

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name	Student's M.I.	RSC Student ID#
Student's Street Address (include apt. no.)			
City	State	Zip Code	

#### General Guidelines

*If you meet one of the following conditions at the time you complete and sign your FAFSA, you are considered independent by federal law governing the student aid programs. If you meet one of these definitions you do not need to complete this form.*

- You were born prior to the year 2003.
- You are married.
- You are currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training.
- You are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- You have a dependent who meets the definition of a legal dependent as defined on the FAFSA.
- At any time since you turned 13, you were an orphan, ward of the court or in foster care.
- You are/were a legally emancipated minor, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence.
- You are/were in a legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence.
- You were considered to be homeless at any time after July 1, 2025 as determined by your high school, a director of an emergency or runaway shelter, director of a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant, or financial aid administrator.

#### Please note the following:

- A student's reluctance to request the income information from the parents is **not** justification for overriding a student's dependency status.
- Parents refusing to contribute to the student's education is not justification for dependency override.
- Parents unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification is not justification for dependency override.
- Parents not claiming the student as a dependent for income tax purposes is not justification for dependency override.
- Students demonstrating total self-sufficiency is not justification for dependency override.
- Parents live separately from student or in a foreign country is not justification for dependency override.
- In all cases, independence must have occurred out of **necessity** rather than choice.
- Examples of situations where a student's dependency status has been overridden are: documented abandonment, parental drug abuse, parental mental incapacity, physical or emotional abuse or parental incarceration.
- A successful application for dependency override depends on the specific information and documentation you are able to provide. Please be as complete and detailed as possible.

## Instructions

1. **Submit a typed personal statement** that details the extenuating circumstances, including what has caused you to become independent from **BOTH** biological parents. State when you became independent and how you have provided for your own basic necessities (shelter, food, clothing, transportation, medical care, etc.). Please note your statement will be used only to determine the validity of your request and will be held in strict confidence. Please make sure to sign and date your statement.
2. **Submit documentation to substantiate the extenuating circumstances.** Examples of documentation could be a statement from a person that is familiar with your circumstances, such as but not limited to; attorneys, school counselors, medical doctors, mental health professionals, teachers or professors, law enforcement officers, professional staff of public agencies (such as the Department of Human Services) or clergy members. All letters must include a name, telephone number, email address or address where the individual can be reached for follow up questions. ***You may also visit the RSC Financial Aid Office to discuss your unusual circumstances and the financial aid staff will document the interview.***
3. If you have already submitted your 2026-2027 FAFSA and listed Rose State College as a school choice, check this box.

If you have not yet submitted your 2026-2027 FAFSA, please complete the FAFSA online at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). You should indicate on the FAFSA that you are unable to provide parental information. Please list Rose State College school code (009185) so we can retrieve your application.

If your request for a dependency override is approved, your financial aid counselor at Rose State College will override your dependency status on the FAFSA federal website on your behalf.

If your request for a dependency override is denied, or if more information is needed, you will be contacted by the Rose State College Financial Aid Office with the reason for denial and the next steps to take.

## Returning Students with APPROVED Dependency Overrides

- I have previously submitted a Dependency Override form and documentation to the RSC Financial Aid Office, and the request was **approved**. I certify that my circumstances have not changed for the 2026-2027 Aid Year.

## Student Certification

I certify that all information contained in this request, including my personal statement and all supporting documentation, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I swear or affirm that I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any false statements or fraudulent documentation. I understand that if I am later found to have knowingly or intentionally given false information or statements, my appeal will be denied and my eligibility for assistance jeopardized.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information on this form, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.**

### RSC Financial Aid Office Use Only

Attached Documentation Acceptable:  Yes  No

Reviewed By FAO Admin: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If documentation is not acceptable, please provide reason: \_\_\_\_\_