



**2025-2026**

**Emancipated Minor/Legal Guardianship Verification**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

On the 2025-2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you answered “YES” to the question stating that you are an emancipated minor, or you were a “ward” under legal guardianship. Additional information is needed for us to determine whether you meet the criteria to answer “YES” to one of these questions, thereby making you independent for financial aid purposes. **Your financial aid cannot be processed until this information is received.**

Select a status below and submit the required documents related to that status:

<input type="checkbox"/> I was under Legal Guardianship of someone other than a Parent.  Select this status only if upon reaching the age of majority in your state (usually 18), someone other than your biological or adoptive parent(s) was appointed as your legal guardian by a court of law in the state of which you were a resident of at the time. <b>Note:</b> Legal guardianship is NOT the same as legal custody. If you were in legal custody of someone, you would answer “no” to the FAFSA questions 54 and/or 55.  1. Date the court appointed someone other than your parent as your legal guardian: _____ 2. Your age at the time: _____ 3. Name of the person(s) appointed as your legal guardian: _____ 4. Were you appointed a guardian because the court deemed you incompetent/incapable of administering your affairs? _____	Attach a copy of the court papers, signed by a judge, verifying that someone other than your parent was appointed your legal guardianship.  If you do not have court papers, you cannot be considered independent based on legal guardianship for financial aid purposes.
<input type="checkbox"/> I am an Emancipated Minor Select this status only if before reaching the age of majority in your state (usually age 18) you were released from the control of your parent or guardian as determined by a court of law in the state of which you were a resident of at the time. <b>Note:</b> Emancipate does NOT mean you pay for your own bills and your parents do not support you. 1. Date the court declared you an emancipated minor: _____ 2. Your age at the time: _____	Attach a copy of the court papers, signed by a judge, verifying your status as an emancipated minor.  If you do not have court papers, you cannot be considered independent based on an emancipated minor status for financial aid purposes.

**CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE**

Each person signing below certifies that all of the information reported is complete and correct.

**WARNING:** If you purposely give false or misleading information on this worksheet, you may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both.

Student Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_