

# Ottawa University



Financial Aid Office

Dependency Override Request 2026-27

**FOR A STUDENT WHO WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENT VIA UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES.** If your situation is such that neither of your parents should be considered as a financial resource for your education, you may complete the rest of this form and return it with all appropriate documentation to the Ottawa University Financial Aid Office.

The basic premise underlying student financial aid is that the student and his or her parent(s) bear the primary responsibility to pay educational costs to the extent of their ability. The financial aid programs are designed by regulation to supplement the resources put forth by the family. By completing this process, you are requesting an exception to these principles, relieving your parent(s) of their responsibility for using their resources to contribute toward your college costs.

This appeal process can be very rigorous; however, any documentation that is requested is necessary and must be submitted for evaluation so that each Ottawa University student requesting a dependency override may be considered fairly and consistently. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. After reviewing the request and supporting documentation, the OU Financial Aid Office reserves the right to request additional documentation or confirmation before a final decision can be rendered.

**Follow the procedures outlined on the next page and return this form with all supporting documentation by specified due date.**

**BY COMPLETING THIS FORM, YOU CONFIRM YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- \* The unwillingness of a parent to provide support and/or the choice of a student not to accept support are unacceptable reasons to make this request.
- \* Living away from home and/or financial independence are NOT sufficient criteria for an override.
- \* The completion of this form does not guarantee a favorable decision. This is an appeal process and your case may be denied.
- \* An approval does not necessarily mean that you will be eligible for federal financial aid.
- \* If your petition is approved, we cannot guarantee approval of an identical case in future years, as regulations regarding our authority are subject to change.
- \* Any decision rendered from this request applies only to your status at Ottawa University.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Current Telephone Number and Address

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**YOU MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

- \* TYPED statement explaining, in detail, the circumstances for which you should be considered an independent student for federal financial aid purposes for the 2026-2027 academic year. Please be as specific as possible.
- \* At least one but not more than three sources of supporting documentation from a third party (i.e., minister, counselor, foster parents, school official, court official, etc.) that will substantiate your statement.

**WARNING:** If you receive student aid based on incorrect information, you may have to pay it back. If you purposely give false or misleading information on this form, you may be fined \$10,000, receive a prison sentence, or both.

**AFFIRMATION:** By signing this document, I certify that all information I have submitted is accurate and verified with supporting documentation.