

2013-2014 DEPENDENCY APPEAL

Student UCM ID _____

Student Full Name _____
Last Name First Name M.I.

Current Address _____
Street Address City State Zip Code

E-mail _____ Phone Number _____

Students classified as dependent may petition to be reclassified as independent based upon an adverse family situation that makes obtaining parental information impossible. In order for your appeal to be considered, you must be able to document that all financial and emotional contact with your parents has been severed as a result of an adverse home situation. Some examples of adverse conditions include the following:

- Severe estrangement from parents
- An unsafe home environment
- Physical or emotional abuse
- Abandonment

A parent's refusal to contribute to a student's education, an unwillingness to provide information on the FAFSA, not claiming the student as a dependent on a tax return, or a student's demonstration of self-sufficiency does not constitute an adverse home situation or the need for a dependency override. However, see below for more information about parent's refusal for support.

Check the box that applies to you:

- I have an adverse home situation that was documented in a prior year at University of California, Merced and I certify my situation has not changed for the 2013-14 academic year.
- I have an adverse home situation.

The following information must be submitted before we can review an appeal for independent status.

- A detailed letter from you explaining your situation.
- Two letters from professionals who have worked with you and are familiar with your family situation such as a school counselor, psychotherapist, member of the clergy or social worker. These letters must be written on the letterhead of the agency where the professional is employed and must substantiate the existence of your adverse family situation.

STUDENT CERTIFICATION

I hereby declare that all information reported on this document is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statement or misrepresentation will be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal and/or repayment of financial aid and referral to the appropriate authorities. This document must be postmarked by June 1, 2013 to be considered for maximum eligibility of aid.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Certificate of Parental Non-Support

- My parents have ended financial support for me and/or they refuse to file the 2013-2014 FAFSA form.

One of the following items from your parents must be attached (this does not make you eligible for a dependency override):

- A letter stating that they refuse to support your education, with the effective date the support ended, and/or they refuse to complete the 2013-2014 FAFSA application.
- A signed copy of the Parent Certificate (below) OR
- If parent refuses to provide any documentation we will need documentation from a third party such as a teacher, counselor, clergy, or court.

I refused to complete the 2013-2014 FAFSA application and refuse to support the above named student's education.

Date support stopped _____ Print Name _____ Parent Signature _____ Date _____