

2024-2025 Unusual Circumstance Appeal

Student UCM ID

Student Full Name

First Name

Last Name

M.I.

Section A: Appeal Reason

To be considered for an unusual circumstance, you must be able to document that you are unable to contact a parent or where contact with parents poses a risk. Some examples of unusual circumstances include severe estrangement from parents, physical or emotional abuse, an unsafe home environment, abandonment, human trafficking, and student or parent incarceration. Appeal decisions are made on a case-by-case basis and will be sent to your UC Merced e-mail.

Reasons that cannot be considered include demonstrating financial self-sufficiency, your parent(s) not claiming you on their taxes, and parent(s) unwillingness or inability to contribute financially.

Appeal Reason	Required Documentation
○ I have an unusual circumstance.	 A signed and dated letter from you explaining your situation; and A signed and dated letter from a third party such as a teacher, counselor, clergyman, doctor, or law enforcement officer who has direct knowledge of your situation. The letter must be written on the letterhead of the agency where the professional is employed and must substantiate the existence of the adverse family situation.
My parents are unwilling to provide information on my financial aid application or required verification documents. Please note that you may only be eligible for a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan without completing a FAFSA or CADAA.	 A signed and dated letter from you explaining your situation; and A signed and dated letter from your parent indicating that they are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or CADAA; or If parent refuses to provide any documentation you will need to submit documentation from a third party such as a teacher, counselor, clergyman, or court.
I have an unusual circumstance home situation that was documented in a prior year at the University of California, Merced and I certify my situation has not changed for the 2024-2025 academic year.	· No documentation required.

Section B: 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.

Student Signature

We cannot accept a typed signature. Please sign this form with a drawn signature.