



2026-2027 SAI Appeal

Student UCM ID

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

Student Aid Index (SAI) Appeals may be submitted after 2026-2027 financial aid has been awarded. Submitting an appeal does not guarantee that financial aid awards will change. Awards may remain the same, be increased, or reduced. Students submitting an SAI Appeal may be **selected for verification**, which must be completed even if you decide not to proceed with the appeal. All communications, including notifications about any additional required documentation and final appeal decisions, will be sent to your UC Merced e-mail address. *Note: If you already have a SAI of zero (0) or a negative SAI there is no need to complete this form.*

Section A: Special Circumstance

Please submit a written statement explaining your special circumstances. You will be asked to submit additional documentation based off your special circumstances. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (209)228-7178.

Section B: Student & Parent/Spouse Certification

All of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree to provide further documentation to substantiate the information provided if requested. I understand that all requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and my request may not result in an actual change in financial aid.

Student Signature Date Parent/Spouse Signature Date

*Parent Signature for Dependent Students Only-Spouse Signature For Independent Students Only (if applicable)
We cannot accept typed signatures. Please sign this form with wet or drawn signatures.*

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You must be able to provide supporting documentation for your circumstances. Below are examples of potential documents you may be asked to submit. Additionally, you may be asked to submit **signed copies of 2024 and 2025 1040 Tax Returns** (including Schedules 1 & 3, if applicable).

Special Circumstance(s)	For a Dependent Student	For an Independent Student	Potential documents
Change in employment or income, alimony/child support, retirement/pension, SSDI (Taxable disability income)	You or your parent(s)' income earned/benefits received in 2026-2027 will cease or be less than what was earned/received in 2024.	You or your spouse's income earned/benefits received in 2026-2027 will cease or be less than what was earned/received in 2024.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Unemployment Award Letter * Last pay stub showing year-to-date earnings * Termination notice from employer * All 2024 and 2025 W2s * Original 2024 Benefit statement listing total amount received * Revised 2026-2027 Benefit statement or court documents listing updated amount to receive and effective date
One-time Payment Received	Your parent(s) received a one time lump sum payment in 2024.	You or your spouse received a onetime lump sum payment in 2024.	*Documents detailing one-time payment amount, source, reason <i>such as a 1099-R form for retirement/pension distribution</i>
Separation or Divorce/ Death of parent or spouse	Your parents separated or divorced/died after filing the financial aid application.	You and your spouse separated or divorced or your spouse died after filing the financial aid application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Divorce decree or separation agreement or proof of separate addresses *Death certificate * All 2024 and 2025 W2s
Uncommon Expenses <i>Medical/Dental Expense Child care expense or other uncommon circumstance</i>	Your or your parent(s) had medical/dental expenses or uncommon expenses not covered by insurance.	You and your spouse had medical/dental expenses or uncommon expenses not covered by insurance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Medical bills, explanation of benefits, statements from your insurance that shows your remaining out of pocket costs <p><i>Estimates will not be accepted</i></p>