TULANE UNIVERSITY

University Financial Aid

2026-2027 Documentation of Independent Status Form

This form should be completed when a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) indicates independent status under certain conditions. The student is required to submit documentation applicable to their claim of independent status along with this completed form.

Submit this form to: **Tulane University Financial Aid, Gibson Hall, Suite #130, 6823 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118**

Or

Upload this form to: https://finaidforms.tulane.edu/Home/Account/Login

_____ **Student Name** (please print)

_____ **Last 4 digits of student's SSN**

_____ **Tulane ID (if known)**

Please check your claim of independent status below, sign and date this form, and submit the required documentation so that we may continue to process your federal financial aid.

_____1. I am currently *serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard, or a Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for purposes other than state or training purposes.*
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of your official active duty military orders.
If you are not on active duty OR if you are not a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for purposes other than state purposes or training purposes, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____2. I currently *have dependents (other than my children or spouse) who live with me and who receive more than half of their support from me, now and through July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027.*
Required Documentation:
Please submit documents to substantiate your claim of support for these individuals. Examples of acceptable documentation: a copy of your Federal Tax Form claiming these individuals as dependents, any official legal/court documentation, or other documentation pertinent to proving your claim.
If you do not have documented proof of these dependents, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____3. When I was age 13 or older, both of my parents were deceased, or I was in foster care, or I was a dependent/orphan/ward of the court.
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of both parents' official death certificates and explain where you lived and how you supported yourself following your parents' deaths. Alternatively, attach documentation of your state-certified foster care. Alternatively, attach a copy of the official court order stating your status of dependent/orphan/ward of the court.
If you do not have proof of your parents' death, state-certified foster care, or dependent/orphan/ward of the court status, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____4. I am currently an *emancipated minor as determined by a court in my state of legal residence*.
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of the court document stating your official emancipated minor status.
If you do not have emancipated minor status, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

2026-2027 Documentation of Independent Status Form (continued)

Student Name (please print) _____ **Last 4 digits of student's SSN** _____

Tulane ID (if known) _____

_____5. I am currently *in legal guardianship as determined by a court in my state of legal residence*.
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of the official court document stating your legal guardianship status.
If you do not have legal guardianship status, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____6. On or after July 1, 2025, *my high school or school district homeless liaison determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless.*
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of the official document from your homeless liaison stating your official unaccompanied homeless youth status.
If you do not have unaccompanied homeless youth status per your school district homeless liaison, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____7. On or after July 1, 2025, *the director of an emergency shelter program funded by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.*
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of the document from the director of the emergency shelter stating your official unaccompanied homeless youth status.
If you do not have unaccompanied homeless youth status per the director of an emergency shelter, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

_____8. On or after July 1, 2025, *the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program, determined that I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.*
Required Documentation:
Please submit a copy of the document from the director of the youth basic center stating your official unaccompanied homeless youth status or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.
If you do not have unaccompanied homeless youth status or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless per the director of the youth basic center, please go to studentaid.gov to make the necessary corrections about your claimed independence.

Sign and date below:

I certify that all information provided in this document is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further understand that any false statement or misrepresentation will be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid. I authorize Tulane University to make any change/s necessary as a result of the updated information that I have provided. I acknowledge that the determination of my dependency status by Tulane may solely be used for determining my eligibility for federal student aid.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____