Who Is Independent for Financial Aid?
Per Federal Regulation to be considered an Independent student for financial aid you must:


2. Be Married as of the day the FAFSA application was signed.

3. Be a Graduate Student at the beginning or during the 2021-2022 school year.

4. Be currently serving on Active Duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training.

5. Be a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. (Dishonorable Discharge is not acceptable.)

6. Have a Child or Children who receive more than half their support from the student between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

7. Have Dependents, other than a child, who receives more than half their support from the student now through June 30, 2022.

8. Be an Orphan or after age 13 a Ward of the Court or in Foster Care.

9. Be an Emancipated Minor as determined by a court in the student’s state of legal residence.

10. Be in Legal Guardianship as determined by a court in the student’s state of legal residence.

11. Be determined an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth by the student’s High School or school district on or after July 1, 2020.

12. Be determined an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth by the director of an emergency shelter program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or after July 1, 2020.

13. Be determined an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth who was homeless or self-supporting and At Risk of being homeless by the director of a Runaway or Homeless Youth Basic Center or Transitional Living Program on or after July 1, 2020.

If the student does not meet any of these criteria then a new FAFSA application must be submitted with all responsible parent(s) data listed. If a student believes they have an extenuating circumstance to be considered independent, please contact your financial aid adviser at (352) 392-1275.