



2025-2026 REQUEST FOR DEPENDENCY STATUS REVIEW

Student Name _____ Student ID # _____

Financial aid regulations state that dependent students are required to complete the parental sections, provide parental income information, and parental signatures on the FAFSA to be considered for financial aid. You may request a review to waive the federal regulation requirement if you can document that you are separated from your parents due to an abusive environment or extraordinary circumstances.

- **Under Federal Regulations your parent's unwillingness to provide their information, your ability to support yourself, or the fact that you do not live with your parents DOES NOT constitute a reason for a Dependency Override to be approved.**
- **Once you have gathered the required documentation as detailed below, please send the documents and this completed form to finaid@sussex.edu . The Financial Aid Office will review it and contact you if any additional documentation is needed. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 973-300-2225. You must meet ONE of the situations described below.**

➤ **Check the reason that best describes your situation – DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED!**

☐ I have been separated from both of my parents due to an abusive family environment. **(Attach 3rd party documentation from a court, social service agency, or other similar source.)**

☐ I have been separated from my parents because they are incarcerated and I live with a friend or relative who contributes to my support. **(Attach 3rd party documentation from a court, social service agency or similar source.)**

☐ I am separated from both of my parents due to abandonment and I am unable to contact them, or one of my parents is deceased and I do not know the whereabouts of my other parent. **(Attach 3rd party documentation from a court, social service agency, etc. and if applicable, death certificate.)** ☐

➤ **Please provide a separate letter which includes a brief history describing the circumstances which has caused you to request a dependency status review. The following questions should be answered in your letter.**

1. Where are both of your parents located?
2. When and where was the last time, you had contact with each of your parents and what was the nature of the contact?
3. How have you been self-supporting? When did you start meeting your expenses without parental support?

Student Signature _____ Date _____