Dependency Override Request Form

To guarantee consideration of your request you **must** submit the following:
- Completed dependency override application (all sections)
- Supporting documentation
- Completed FAFSA and Independent verification forms
- Signed copy of your tax papers or income information if not filing

All documents **must** be received before the deadline. If documentation is not attached, your application will be return to you marked incomplete. You must document your special circumstance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Student ID/SSN</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
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<tr>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Telephone number</th>
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I. **Check the reason for your independent status request:**

- Ward of the Court or Emancipation from Parents:
  - **Documents Required:**
    - A copy of the court documents supporting the Ward of Court status or the Emancipation Decree

- Orphan or Death of Parents
  - **Documents Required:**
    - A copy of both parents’ death certificates and/or obituaries
    - A copy of the student’s birth certificate

- Parents’ inability to provide support due to physical/mental capacity

- Student’s status (not the parents’) as a recipient of public assistance payments (*not simply Medicaid or food stamps*)

- Dissolution of student’s relationship with the parents under circumstances initiated by the parents which can be verified by reliable third parties.

- Abandonment by parents – must provide documentation from a third party

- Illegal activities of parents such as sale/use of drugs, prostitution and/or gambling
☐ You are an eligible non-citizen of the US and your spouse/parents currently reside in a foreign country. However, due to a long-standing political policy or civil arrest in their residing country you are unable to communicate.

**Documents Required:**

- A copy of the student’s 2010 federal tax return
- A copy of two (2) bills or statements that prove you are self-supporting (*cannot have lived in an apartment, house or building owned or leased by your parents*).
- Detailed letter explaining the circumstances to claim independence
- Describe the current living situation and method of support since separation from parent’s home and provide appropriate documentation
- Notarized letters (*if not on official letterhead*) from reliable third parties, *including counselors, teachers, clergy, attorney, and DHR verifying the circumstances of separation from parents*
  
  - Documentation can be copies of restraining orders, notices of court or police action, confirmation of long-term residential treatment or interaction with a mental health center, and/or abuse centers.

For financial aid purposes, federal regulations have defined an independent student as one who meets at least one of the following conditions:

1. 24 years of age or older
2. Married
3. Orphan or ward of the court
4. Graduate/Professional student
5. Veteran of the US Armed Forces or on active duty in the US Armed Forces for purposes other than training.
6. Legal dependents other than a spouse who living with them, and they provide **more than 50%** of the person’s support
7. Emancipated
8. Unaccompanied, homeless youth

Federal regulations do permit Shelton State Community College to override a student’s dependency status **IF** unusual circumstances exist and can be documented. This determination is made on a case by case basis; however, the following conditions **ARE NOT** considered unusual circumstances and by law we cannot change your status:

1. Parent(s) refusing to provide information
2. Student does not wish to communicate with parents.
3. Student who has been previously considered independent for the purpose of receiving financial aid, but does not meet the current definition as outlined on the FAFSA
4. Parents not claiming the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
5. **Student demonstrating total self-sufficiency**

These guidelines were written with the philosophy that people are dependent upon their parents, at least until age 24, unless death or severe family problems intervene. Therefore, if a student believes they have extenuating circumstances that warrant a review of their dependency status, they may complete this form and provide
documentation to request a dependency override. The student’s narrative and supporting documentation from others must be detailed providing specifics about the family situations or problems.

Section I. Explanation of Circumstances

Please explain why you believe you should be considered independent. Your narrative should include information regarding your relationship with your parents and why they cannot or will not complete the FAFSA and/or assist you with your educational expenses. Use separate sheet if necessary.

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Section II. Financial Information

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<tr>
<th>Monthly Expenses</th>
<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent $</td>
<td>Net Monthly $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone $</td>
<td>Yearly $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities $</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Payment $</td>
<td>Employer name and address:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel $</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Insurance $</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clothing $</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food $</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Insurance $</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> $</td>
<td>$</td>
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1. Did anyone claim you as a tax exemption in
   2008 No Yes Who?_________________
   2009 No Yes Who?_________________
   2010 No Yes Who?_________________

2. What is the most recent date you received support from or lived with your parents? ________________

Section III. Student Certification

I certify that the information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have attached documentation to support my request. (A decision by your parent not to support your cost of education is not an example of special circumstances which will make you independent.)

________________________________________  ________________
Student’s signature                                           Date