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Name: _____
Last First
Chico State ID: _____ Date of birth: _____
E-mail: _____ Phone: _____
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2012/2013 Dependency Status Appeal

Please complete with black or blue ink

Federal Regulations Regarding Financial Aid Dependency Status

According to federal regulations, financial aid eligibility is based on the family as the first source of the student's support. There are thirteen questions on the **FAFSA (Section 2 - Student Dependency Status)** that determine independent status. For your convenience, page 2 of this appeal form provides a review of these items.

- If you answer "YES" to ANY of the questions, you are considered independent.
- If you answer "NO" to ALL of the questions, then you are considered dependent, and you must provide parental information.

Federal regulations provide for a university appeal process, by which a financial aid advisor may decide that a student who does not meet any of the independent criteria can be treated as an independent student. This is called a **dependency override**, and is considered on a case-by-case and year-by-year basis. Federal guidelines stipulate the following conditions **do not** qualify as circumstances meriting a dependency override:

Non-eligible Criteria for Independence:

- Parents refusing to contribute to your education;
- Parents unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or documents for verification;
- Parents not claiming you as a dependent for income tax purposes;
- Student demonstrating total self-sufficiency.

Circumstances That May Meet Dependency Status Appeal Criteria

Adverse family situations:

You must clearly demonstrate an adverse family situation in order to be considered independent for financial aid purposes. Adverse family situations may include: physical or emotional abuse, severe estrangement, abandonment, parental drug or alcohol abuse, mental incapacity or other circumstances beyond your control that prevent you from obtaining your parents' financial information.

Directions to Complete this Appeal

To be considered for a dependency override, **please complete items 1 through 6 below**, and return this appeal to our office with the required documentation specified below. **Incomplete appeals will not be processed.** Keep a copy of the appeal and all documents for your records. Evaluation of your appeal may take up to eight weeks. You will receive notice of our decision by mail. Please contact us if you have questions.

1. Submit a 2012/2013 FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. See page 3 of this form for instructions.

2. Required Documentation. Write your name and Chico State I.D. on every document. You **must include** the following:

- **Signed Student Statement.** Clearly outline the adverse circumstances you believe make you independent. Describe your family history and how you supported yourself in 2011.
- **Income Verification.** Include in your student statement an explanation of **how you paid your basic living expenses** (rent, utilities, food).
- **Third-Party Statement.** This is a signed statement from another individual who has knowledge of your adverse family situation. This statement may be from a school counselor or administrator, clergy member, physician, social worker, or therapist. The statement should be submitted on letterhead from the person's place of employment, and include their full address and phone number.

3. What are your living arrangements during the summer? _____

4. Were you claimed as a dependent by anyone on a 2011 federal income tax return? No Yes

If yes, identify person _____, relationship, _____, and year _____.

5. I have completed a 2012/2013 FAFSA on _____ date. If not, see page 3 of this form for instructions for filing your 2012/2013 FAFSA.

6. I certify that all information provided on this appeal and any attachments are complete and accurate. False statements will be cause for denial, reduction, and/or repayment of financial aid.

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS APPEAL

FAFSA (Section 2—Student Dependency Status)

Were you born before January 1, 1989?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
As of today, are you married? (Answer “Yes” if you are separated, but not divorced.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
At the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year, will you be working on a master’s or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2013?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
At anytime since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
As determined by a court in your state of legal residence are you or were you an emancipated minor? Answer “yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision indicating that you are/were an emancipated minor.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
As determined by a court in your state of legal residence are you or were you in legal guardianship? Answer “yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision indicating that you are/were in legal guardianship.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
At any time on or after July 1, 2011, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
At any time on or after July 1, 2011, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
At any time on or after July 1, 2011 did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Instructions for Completing the FAFSA for Students Submitting Dependency Status Appeal

Filing Your FAFSA:

Students with Parent Information:

1. Complete and submit a FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. You will need your Department of Education PIN to complete this process. Click on *Forgot Your PIN* or *Forgot Your Password* under **Step 2, Filling Out a FAFSA**, if you have forgotten your PIN or your Password.
2. Complete and submit the CSU, Chico 2012/2013 Dependency Status Appeal to our office. Dependency Status Appeals are available at www.csuchico.edu/fa/forms/printable.shtml. Make sure all relevant documentation is attached.

Students without Parent Information:

1. Complete and submit a FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. You will need your Department of Education student PIN to complete this process. Click on *Forgot Your PIN* or *Forgot Your Password* under **Step 2, Filling Out a FAFSA**, if you have forgotten your PIN or your Password.
2. Under **Your Dependency Status** section, select *I am unable to provide parental information* and continue the process until you have completely submitted your FAFSA. Under very limited circumstances, you may be able to submit your FAFSA without parental information. We will determine whether or not you can do that when we complete your Dependency Status Appeal process in step #3 below.
3. Complete and submit the CSU, Chico 2012/2013 Dependency Status Appeal to our office. Dependency Status Appeals are available at www.csuchico.edu/fa/forms/printable.shtml. Make sure all relevant documentation is attached.

After Filing the FAFSA and Submitting Your Appeal:

- **If your appeal is approved**, we will notify you and submit a correction to the Central Processing System with all appropriate dependency override codes. Your financial aid will be packaged based on independent status.
- **If your appeal is not approved**, we will notify you about our decision. In order to receive a financial aid package, you **MUST** provide parent financial information and signatures using FAFSA online. Return to www.fafsa.ed.gov. Select "Start Here," and provide all necessary information, including all required parent information and signatures.