NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

FINANCIAL AID
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Marquette, MI 49855-5301
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2026-2027
Unusual Circumstances Appeal Form

1UCF

Student Name_____ **NMU ID**_____

Current Address_____

☐ If you **DO NOT** have Unusual Circumstances, and marked the box by mistake, check the box on the left, skip the other sections, **sign, and submit this worksheet to the Financial Aid Office**. You will then need to ***update your FAFSA*****. You will need to change the question asking if you have Student Unusual Circumstances from "yes" to "no," and also add parent information**. Your FAFSA can be updated online at studentaid.gov. For more information on the FAFSA, see nmu.edu/financialaid/application**.** Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you need assistance.

If you are currently required to provide parent information on the FAFSA, but have an unusual circumstance which prevents you from doing so, this form can be used to submit an appeal. **Review the situations listed below and check the one which best describes your situation. You will also need to provide a letter fully explaining your situation and supporting documentation.**

Your appeal will be reviewed based on the documentation submitted and the Financial Aid Office will notify you of the results. Please be aware that proving self-sufficiency and living on your own are not adequate reasons for changing your dependency status and cannot be considered as an appealable circumstance. Completing this form and providing documentation does not guarantee that a change will be made.

If your parents will not provide financial and non-cash support for you, and refuse to complete the FAFSA, you may be eligible to receive federal direct unsubsidized loans only. You will need to complete the Request for Dependent Student to Receive Unsubsidized Loans Only form, available in the Financial Aid Office or at www.nmu.edu/finaidforms.

Please note: If your explanation will disclose incidents of sexual misconduct, (includes any of the following acts: sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, voyeurism, sex discrimination, domestic violence, and any other conduct of a sexual nature that is nonconsensual*), that information will be forwarded to the University's Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. You may receive an email from that office providing an opportunity to meet, access resources, or provide additional information. If you would like to speak confidentially to a counselor for support, please contact NMU's Counseling and Consultation Department at 906-227-2980.*

☐ **There has been a breakdown in my family structure due to physical abuse, emotional abuse, substance abuse and/or abandonment or neglect.**

Submit a letter from you fully explaining your situation *and* one or more of the following:

1) Court documents
2) A signed letter (on official letterhead) explaining the situation in detail from a clergy member, social worker, psychologist, high school counselor, teacher, doctor, social agency or other counseling professional
3) Police report

☐ **My custodial parent has died and my other parent is still living. However, I have had no contact with my living parent (including financial support) for a significant period of time.**

Submit a letter from you fully explaining your situation *and* ALL of the following:

1) A copy of the death certificate for the deceased custodial parent; *and*
2) Documentation of the custodial relationship (i.e., a court document, a copy of the divorce decree, or other evidence) showing that the deceased was the custodial parent; *and*
3) A signed letter (on official letterhead) from a clergy member, social worker, psychologist, high school counselor, teacher, doctor, social agency or other counseling professional, which supports the claim of not having lived with nor received financial support from the non-custodial parent

☐ **I am an unaccompanied homeless youth or an unaccompanied youth at risk of homelessness.**

Submit a signed letter from you fully explaining your situation *and* documentation that supports your request and explains your situation, such as a McKinney/Vento letter, or a letter (on official letterhead) explaining the situation in detail from a clergy member, social worker, psychologist, high school counselor, teacher, doctor, social agency, homeless shelter, or other professional agency

☐ **My situation does not fit those listed above.**

Submit a signed letter from you fully explaining your situation and why you are requesting a change from dependent to independent *and* documentation that supports your request and explains your situation.

I certify that all of the above information on this form and accompanying documents is complete and correct. Your request may be denied if you do not provide requested documentation within 60 days of the financial aid receiving this form.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

*** No Typed Signatures ***