



2025-2026 Change in Dependency Status Appeal

Student's First Name

6-digit NEIU Student ID#

Student's Last Name

Phone Number

There are federal requirements that a student must meet to qualify for financial aid as an independent student (see questions 457 of the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)). If you do not meet one of the criteria listed on the FAFSA, you will be reviewed as a dependent student, meaning that your parents must provide income and asset information. In reviewing an appeal for a Change in Dependency Status, the federal guidelines suggest that the financial aid administrator consider those situations where it is necessary for the student to live separately from parents. This does not include students who make a voluntary decision to leave home nor does it include students who married after the completion of the FAFSA. If you believe that you qualify for reevaluation as an independent student, please submit this form along with all requested documents to the NEIU Financial Aid Office. A determination will be made and you will be notified in writing.

1. On a separate sheet of paper, please attach a typewritten explanation addressing the necessary separation from your parents, qualifying you to be considered an independent student. Please attach any supporting documentation of your circumstance(s). **INCOMPLETE REQUESTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

2. During the 2025-2026 academic year you will be residing:

___ with parents* ___ with relatives ___ in an apartment (attach copy of apartment lease)

*NOTE: Not living with your parents or self support do not automatically classify you as an independent student.

3. Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person's 2023 Federal Tax Return? _____

4. Did you receive financial aid in the 2025 academic year as an independent student? _____

5. If you answered "yes" to question #4, please list the name of the school that you attended and attach a copy of the appeal from the other school. Please note overrides performed by previous institutions are not automatically approved.

6. If you received income that was not listed on your 2023 IRS Tax return please indicate the amount and the source of that income (include cash gifts from parents/relatives/friends, general assistance, 2025 credit balance, financial aid etc):

Amount: \$ _____

Source: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Source: _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURE: I certify that all information reported is complete and correct. I understand that