

Financial Aid Office
2755 E. Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022



Phone: 269-927-8112
Fax: 269-927-8183
Email: finaid@lakemichigancollege.edu

2017-2018 Dependency Override Appeal Form

Student Name _____ Student ID # _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone Number (including area code) _____

You are automatically considered to be independent and do not need to submit this form, if any of the following apply:

- You were born before January 1, 1994.
- You are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces*.
- You were married as of the date you filed your original FAFSA for 2017-2018.
- You are an orphan or a ward of the court, or *were* a ward of the court until age 18.
- You have any children who receive more than half of their financial support from you.
- You have dependents (other than your children or your spouse) that live with you, receive more than half of their support from you, and will continue to get that support through June, 2018.

Proving self-sufficiency and/or living on your own are not adequate reasons for changing dependency status and will not be considered an appealable circumstance. However, if there is a severe and complete break in the relationship between you and your parents, LMC **may** be able to consider you an independent student. To make this determination we will need a detailed written explanation and adequate supporting documentation from you.

If one of the circumstances listed **on the next page of this form** applies to you, please check the correct box, attach required documentation and return all documents, including this form, to:

Lake Michigan College Financial Aid Office 2755 E Napier Ave Benton Harbor, MI 49022

You may fax your documents to (269) 927-8183 or email them to finaid@lakemichigancollege.edu.

The Financial Aid Office will review your appeal and send you a letter indicating whether your appeal was approved. Incomplete appeals will be returned without being reviewed.

*You are considered a veteran for financial aid purposes *if* you have engaged in active duty in the US Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard) or as a member of the National Guard or Reserves who was called to active duty for purposes other than training, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, **and** were released under a condition other than dishonorable. You are also considered a veteran for financial aid purposes if you are not a veteran now but will be by June 30, 2017.

- A.** Your custodial parent has died and the other natural parent is still living. You, however, have not had contact with nor received any financial support from the living parent for a significant period of time.

Required Documentation:

1. A signed letter from you explaining the situation in detail.
2. A copy of the death certificate for the deceased custodial parent.
3. A signed letter from an objective third party which supports your claim that you have neither lived with nor received financial support from the non-custodial parent for a significant period of time.
4. An IRS tax transcript for 2015.

- B.** There has been a major incident or incidents that have caused a break in your family structure. The break may result from physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, or drug or alcohol addiction. In many cases, a professional counselor has counseled you to live apart from your parent(s).

Required Documentation:

1. A signed letter (on official letterhead) from a minister, a social worker, a psychologist, a high school counselor, a teacher, a doctor, or another counseling professional explaining the situation in detail.
2. A signed letter from you explaining the situation in detail.
3. One or more of the following:
 - A signed letter, preferably from someone other than a relative or a friend (i.e., the parents of a friend of the student, a neighbor, an employer)
 - Police reports
 - Court reports
 - Documentation from a social agency
4. An IRS tax transcript for 2015.

- C.** Other unusual circumstances. *Remember: Proving self-sufficiency and/or living on your own is not an adequate reason for changing your dependency status and will not be considered an appealable circumstance.*

Required Documentation:

1. A detailed written explanation, signed by you, submitted with substantiating documentation of other unusual circumstances not covered in #1 or #2 above.
2. A signed letter (on official letterhead) explaining the situation in detail from a minister, social worker, psychologist, high school counselor, teacher, doctor, or another counseling professional.
3. An IRS tax transcript for 2015.

My signature below verifies that to the best of my knowledge all of the information provided with my appeal is complete and correct. I understand that I may be asked to provide additional documentation, and I agree to provide it if necessary for the completion of my appeal.

Documentation of Student Dependency Status

Student Name: _____ **Student ID#:** _____

On your **2017-2018 FAFSA**, you indicated that you are an **independent** student. Please check the appropriate box below **AND** provide the documents listed.

- At any time, from age 13 or beyond, both of my parents became deceased. Check box even if you were adopted during this time.
REQUIRED: Copy of death certificate(s)

- At any time, from age 13 or beyond, I lived in foster care. Check box even if you do not live in foster care as of today.
REQUIRED: Copy of Order verifying foster care

- At any time, from age 13 or beyond, I became an orphan or ward of the court. Check box even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court.
REQUIRED: Copy of Order verifying Court Ward

- I am now, or was, an emancipated minor as determined by a court in my state of legal residence.
REQUIRED: Copy of Order for Emancipation

- I am now, or was, in legal guardianship as determined by a court in my state of legal residence.
REQUIRED: Copy of Letters of Guardianship

- At some time on or after July 1, 2016, I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless as determined by my high school.
REQUIRED: Letter from school's Homeless Education Liaison verifying status

- At some time on or after July 1, 2016, I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless as Determined by an emergency shelter or transitional housing program.
REQUIRED: Letter from emergency shelter verifying status.

- At some time on or after July 1, 2016, I was an unaccompanied youth who was homeless as Determined by a runaway or homeless youth basic center.
REQUIRED: Letter from runaway shelter or youth center verifying status.

Student Signature

Date