



2026-2027 Provisional Independent Student Appeal

Student Name: Last Name _____ First _____

Student ID Number: _____ **Student Email:** _____

Federal student aid guidelines consider undergraduate students dependent on their parents until age 24, and financial aid eligibility is calculated using parent financial information. However, a student may have unusual circumstances that require consideration for independent status. Allowable reasons include such situations as abuse, abandonment, or incarceration. These reasons are not a basis for an appeal: student is self-supporting, parent refuses to pay for college, or parent no longer claims the student on their taxes. Please allow up to two weeks for processing. Note: If circumstances remain the same, you would receive this designation in subsequent years.

The following documents are required along with this form:

- 1.) A signed, detailed letter from you, the student, explaining;
 - a. the unusual circumstances,
 - b. your relationship with your biological parents,
 - c. explanation of where you expect to receive your financial support for the next school year

- 2.) Two (2) letters of support from non-relatives (e.g., proprietor, employer, counselor, social worker, teacher, or clergy), which can confirm the circumstances in your letter of explanation.
 - a. The letters of support should also include how and for how long they have known you. All letters need to be provided on business letterhead from the organization attesting to your circumstances.
 - b. Any official and/or legal documentation you have to support your claims (e.g., police reports, school records, restraining orders).
 - c. Proof of current residency. This can be a utility bill, cable bill, medical/high school records.
 - d. All other documentation that you believe will help demonstrate your independent status. Supporting statements from any party should be provided on business letterhead or notarized if a personal statement.

*By signing, I am certifying that this request is subject to the professional judgment of the Student Financial Services Office at Iona University. This request may be subject to further documentation. **ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL** and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education. If my circumstances differ at any point in time, I will notify Student Financial Services in writing of such changes. If I provide false or misleading information, I will be reported to the U.S. Department of Education where I may be fined, sent to prison, or both.*

STUDENT NAME (PRINT) _____ ID # _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____