



## 2024-25 Unusual Circumstance Appeal Dependency Override / Unaccompanied Youth Determination

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Mercyhurst Student ID

Review the information on the other side of this form to learn about the Unusual Circumstance Appeal process. Then, complete the information below and gather all required documents. Student Financial Services (SFS) will review this information to determine if dependency status is valid or status. If conflicting information is found during this review, SFS is obligated by federal regulations to make any required adjustments. Appeal decisions are final and cannot be further appealed. For questions, contact SFS at 814-824-2288 or [sfsverif@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:sfsverif@mercyhurst.edu).



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### Dependency Override

A dependency override is an appeal in which the student is requesting to be considered as an independent student on the FAFSA which does not require the student to report parental information. A dependent student may qualify for this appeal if:

1. The student does not live in the physical custody of their legal parent(s)\*, AND
2. Unusual circumstances prevent the student from contacting their parent(s), OR
3. If contacting their parent(s) pose a risk to the student.

\*A legal parent includes a biological parent, an a