



2026-2027 Proof of Orphan/Ward of the Court/Foster Care Status

Student Name: _____

Student ID: _____

Your status as an independent student for financial aid purposes was based upon your answer to question regarding your dependency on the 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To complete the financial aid process, please select the status that represents your situation and submit the required documentation. Your financial aid cannot be processed until all required documentation has been received and evaluated.

Select a status and submit the required documentation:

Status	Required Documentation
<input type="checkbox"/> I am an orphan. Select this status only if, at any time since you turned 13, both of your biological or adoptive parents were deceased — even if you have been adopted.	Attach a copy of your birth certificate and the death certificate for each of your parents
<input type="checkbox"/> I was in foster care. Select this status if you were in foster care at any time since you turned 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today.	Provide legal documentation (court documents) or a letter from the Department of Human Services in your state of legal residence. Documentation must confirm that you were in foster care at age 13 or older.
<input type="checkbox"/> I am (or was) a state ward of the court Select this status if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today.	Attach a copy of the court decree from the DSS Case Worker.
<input type="checkbox"/> I am (or was) a county ward of the court Select this status if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today.	Attach a copy of the Letters of Guardianship or Order of Discharge from guardianship.
<input type="checkbox"/> I made an error on the FAFSA. I am/was neither an orphan nor a ward of the court, and neither am/was in foster care.	You and one parent must correct the information on your FAFSA.

WARNING: IF YOU PURPOSELY GIVE FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION ON THIS WORKSHEET, YOU MAY BE FINED OR SENTENCED TO JAIL OR BOTH.

I certify that all the information reported on this worksheet is complete and correct.

Student's Signature

Date