



**DEPENDENCY
OVERRIDE PETITION**
Financial Aid Office
2020/2021

Blue Mountain Community College
PO Box 100
Pendleton, OR 97801
Phone: (541) 278-5759 - Service Center
Fax: (541) 278-5889
Email: FinancialAid@bluecc.edu

Purpose of petition:

The Department of Education uses Step 3 of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine an applicant's "DEPENDENT" or "INDEPENDENT" status. If an applicant answers "NO" to the questions on Step 3, the Department of Education considers that applicant "DEPENDENT" and parental information is required. However, ***if extenuating family circumstances prevent the student from providing parental information, and the student meets the criteria listed below***, this petition to request a dependency override may be completed.

NOTE: Override decisions are decided on a case-by-case basis at each college or university on a yearly basis. Dependency override approvals do not transfer from one college to another.

Instructions for completing the petition:

1. Complete the FAFSA, answering the questions regarding your ability to get parental information.
2. Read the criteria and all instructions carefully on this form.
3. Attach all documentation requested.
4. Submit *completed, signed* petition to the BMCC Service Center nearest you.

CRITERIA:

- A. Have severe or unusual circumstances within your family that prevent you from obtaining your parent's financial information.** Examples:
- ✓ an abusive home situation which is detrimental to your physical or mental well-being
 - ✓ abandonment by both parents
 - ✓ incarceration of the custodial parent
- B. Conditions listed below, singly or in combination, DO NOT qualify as unusual circumstances or merit a dependency override:**
- ☒ Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education.
 - ☒ Parents are unwilling to provide information for FAFSA or for verification.
 - ☒ Parents do not claim student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
 - ☒ Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency (lives on their own without parental support).



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STUDENT NAME: _____ BMCC ID: _____

PLEASE ALLOW 3 - 4 WEEKS FOR PROCESSING

If you meet one or more of the criteria listed under “A” on the previous page you will need to:

1. **Attach a written personal statement** which completely explains in detail how you have met the criteria for your petition. All the information provided with this petition is completely confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone without your written consent. **Your statement must be signed and dated.**

2. **Attach at least two letters** supporting your request that detail why your parent(s) cannot complete the FAFSA. You may submit **one** letter from a relative or friend **plus one** from a professional source (see list), **or two** from the list. The professional’s letter(s) must be on agency letterhead and include their title (“counselor,” “rabbi,” etc.). **Acceptable sources:**
 - √ Clergy member
 - √ Attorney
 - √ School counselor or teacher
 - √ Medical doctor
 - √ Case worker, such as Department of Human Services, or other child/youth welfare agency
 - √ Officers of the court
 - √ Law Enforcement Officer
 - √ mental health professional

STUDENT CERTIFICATION

I certify that all information contained in this petition, including my personal statement and other documentation, is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked, I agree to provide further documentation of the statements provided with this petition. I affirm that I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any false statements or fraudulent documentation. **I also certify that I submitted my FAFSA on-line at least one week prior to submitting this request.**

Student's Signature _____ **Date** _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: This petition is valid for only one school year. If you will be applying for aid next year without parent information, you will need to re-document your status. Contact BMCC’s Student Financial Assistance Office before you reapply.

Financial Aid Office Use Only		
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied		
Signature of Director-Student Financial Assistance		Date
Comments		

Blue Mountain Community College Non-discrimination Statement:

It is the policy of the Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education and School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and nondiscrimination should contact the BMCC Title IX Coordinators, Room M-152 or Room M-4B, Morrow Hall, Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 NW Carden Pendleton OR 97801, Phone 541-278-5796 or 541-278-5947, bclemetsen@bluecc.edu or njaime@bluecc.edu. For hearing impaired assistance please call Oregon Relay at 7-1-1.