



FAFSA Verification of Dependency Status

Student Name: _____ Student ID R#): _____

According to our records, you indicated “yes” on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) stating:

- a. both of your parents are deceased
- b. you are/were a ward/dependent of the court
- c. you are/were in foster care
- d. you are/were emancipated from your parents

Your status as an independent must be verified before your financial aid eligibility can be finalized.

YOUR AID CANNOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL THIS FORM AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS ARE RETURNED TO THE RHODES STATE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE.

Please answer the following questions:

1. At any time since you turned 13 years old were both of your parents deceased? Yes* No
**If both of your parents are deceased, and you do not have adoptive parents you must provide copies of both parents' death certificates.*
2. At any time since you turned 13 years old were you a ward of the court? Yes* No
**If yes, you must attach a copy of the entire court document indicating your status.*
3. Were you in foster care or a dependent of the court at 13 years old or older? Yes* No
**If yes, you must attach a copy of the entire court document indicating your status, OR a letter from a social services agency familiar with your circumstances that you were a ward of the court until your 18th birthday.*
4. Are you an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship as determined by the court in your state of legal residence? Yes* No
**If yes, you must attach a copy of the entire court document indicating the court decision. The court must be located in your state of legal residence.*

If you answered “No” to all questions, you are considered a dependent student and will need to correct your FAFSA online (<https://fafsa.gov/>) by marking “No” to all dependency questions and include your parent(s) or adoptive parent(s) information.

I certify that the information provided to document my independent status is true and complete.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____