SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
LEARNING LIVES FOREVER

Financial Aid & Scholarships
351 W University Blvd
Cedar City, UT 84721
(435) 586-7735
(435) 586-7736 (fax)

Request For Independent Status

2010-2011 Award Year

Please print clearly

T								

T Number

Student's Last Name

Student's First Name

			-				-				

Phone Number

Email Address	

You may use this form to request a review of extenuating circumstances regarding your independent status.

The following examples *do not* warrant a dependency override:

1) Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education
2) Parents are unwilling to provide information on the FAFSA or for verification
3) Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
4) Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency

STEP 1: Please select whether you are submitting a Request for Independent Status Renewal or New Request for Independent Status. Follow the instructions listed for either applicable situation:

☐ **RENEWAL REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT STATUS**

If you were granted a dependency override by SUU in the 2009-10 year, you need to reaffirm that the unusual circumstances persist and that an override is still justified. Please submit the following document (s) to the SUU Financial Aid & Scholarships Office.

A. Updated letter detailing the special circumstance that makes you independent from your parents.
B. Updated letter from a professional (teacher, counselor, clergy, social worker) familiar with the situation, and that can reaffirm that the unusual circumstances still persist.

NOTE: Your 2009-10 Dependency Override must be verified by the SUU Financial Aid Office before the 2010-2011 Dependency Override will be granted.

☐ **NEW REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT STATUS:**

Although there may be other cases that qualify, typically special circumstances have to do with difficult situations at home that force an otherwise dependent student to become independent. Students who feel their circumstances warrant reevaluation of their dependency status must provide the following information to allow the financial aid administrator to make a final determination. Requests turned in without the required documents may be denied due to insufficient documentation.

A. Letter detailing the special circumstances that make you independent from parents.
B. Two statements from professionals (teacher, counselor, clergy, social worker) familiar with the situation, further outlining and verifying the special circumstances. The statements must include address and telephone numbers and should be on letterhead.

STEP 2: VERIFICATION

A. Attach a signed copy of your 2009 federal income tax return.
B. Attach a completed Independent Verification Worksheet.

STEP 3: CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Your signature on this document confirms your acknowledgement of the following:

- The information submitted for review is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.
- You have read each section and have provided the required documentation.
- Providing false information may result in reduced eligibility, repayment of aid, or both
- Additional documentation may be required upon request.
- There is approximately a four week processing time for the request.

Student Signature:_____ Date: _____