Your Independent status is based solely on your answer to the question regarding your Orphan, Ward of the Court or Foster Care status on the FAFSA. Please submit the legal documentation listed below to verify this status. Please check the box in step 1 that best represents your situation and submit the required documentation. We will not be able to fully process your aid until the documentation and form have been fully completed, received and processed.

STEP 1: SELECT THE APPLICABLE BOX AND SUBMIT REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION

☐ I am or was an orphan at any time from the age of 13 or older (even if you are now adopted; check this box only if both parents are deceased; do not check this box if one parent is deceased and the whereabouts of your other parent is unknown).
   - Attach a copy of your birth certificate, along with a copy of each parent’s death certificate.

☐ I am or was a ward or dependent of the court at any time from the age of 13 or older (even if you are no longer a ward of the court as of today).
   - Attach a letter from your social worker confirming that you were a ward of the court, or other court documentation showing that you were removed from your home because it posed a direct threat to your well-being.

☐ I am or was in Foster Care from the age of 13 or older (or was a ward until age of 18).
   - Attach legal documentation from your state of residency.

☐ I made an error on my FAFSA. I am not an orphan or ward/dependent of the court, nor was I ever in Foster Care.
   - ☐ I have corrected the error on my FAFSA.
   - ☐ I understand that I must correct the error to question #55 on the FAFSA and must also provide parental information at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

STEP 2: COMPLETE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

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

- The information submitted on this form 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.
- During peak seasons, there may be a four week processing time for the request.

Student Signature _____________________________________________ Date ______________

Phone (____________) _____________________________________________