

**SCSU 2009-2010
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships**

Southern Connecticut State University
Wintergreen Building
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515

**Petition to Apply for Financial Aid
As an Independent Applicant**

Phone: (203) 392-5222
Fax: (203) 392-5229
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
<http://www.southernct.edu>

Name: _____ Student ID: _____
Address: _____ Telephone: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Financial aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility for meeting the educational costs of students. If you are considered a dependent student according to the financial aid definition, your aid eligibility is determined by using parent income and asset information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signatures to be considered for financial aid.

Occasionally, due to **unusual circumstances**, students should not be considered as dependent. If you can document why you should be considered independent, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information. Based on federal regulations, you cannot be considered independent because you live on your own. There has to be an unusual circumstance that requires you to live on your own. You need to provide documentation proving that you have unusual circumstances. **IN YOUR PETITION, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ADDRESS EACH OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND SUBMIT ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AT ONE TIME.**

1. Explain and document the unusual circumstances that make you independent.
 2. Identify the location of both your parents (name, address, and telephone number)
 3. Describe/document how you have been self-supporting:
 - a.) Where have you lived for the past _____ year (s)?
 - b.) How have you been able to support yourself?
 - c.) When did you start meeting your living expenses without parental support?
 4. Provide letters from **two** responsible adults who are aware of your situation (ex: counselor, teacher, case worker, etc.). **The letters from the responsible adults must:**
 - Be signed.
 - Include complete address.
 - Include the relationship to you.
 - Include a phone number.
 5. Provide a statement indicating where you live and how you pay for rent.
 6. Provide copy of lease or letter from landlord.
 7. Provide your 2007 and 2008 Federal Tax Returns.
 8. Provide your parent(s) 2008 Federal Tax Return.
 9. Certify below: I have attached **SIGNED LETTERS** from the responsible adults who are aware of my situation.
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I certify that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____