The basic premise of federal financial aid is that students and parents have the primary obligation to finance postsecondary education to the extent they are able. The University of Cincinnati Student Financial Aid Office supports this premise and the current federal dependency definition. It is our policy to override the federal determination of dependency with extreme caution and only when it is clearly demonstrated, and supported with third-party documents, that an otherwise dependent student's parent(s) is no longer available to participate with the student in applying for federal assistance.

This form is used by student financial aid applicants who are seeking a review of their dependency status based upon unusual circumstances that prohibit their parents from participating with them in the application process.

**STEP 1: UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**
Explain, in detail on the reverse side of this form, the reasons why your parents are unavailable to apply for aid with you for the 2016-2017 academic year.

**STEP 2: DOCUMENTATION**
Attach third-party documentation that supports the conditions of your appeal. Professional third-party documentation is preferred from a counselor, physician, lawyer, clergy, or persons in a professional capacity who can submit a letter that clearly explains and supports your appeal circumstances. Third party documentation should be on letterhead and must include a daytime contact phone number.

**STEP 3: CERTIFICATION**
Sign the Certification Statement on the reverse side of this form.

This appeal will be reviewed by the Student Financial Aid Office. You will be notified in writing of the decision. Supporting documentation requested must be attached to this appeal. Return completed form with attached documentation to the Student Financial Aid Office.

Mail: Student Financial Aid Office
      University of Cincinnati
      PO Box 210125
      Cincinnati, OH 45221-0125
      Phone: (513) 556-1000 (One Stop)

Fax: (513) 556-9171
Email: financeaid@uc.edu
Location: One Stop Student Services
- 220 University Pavilion, Clifton Campus
- 150 Muntz, UC Blue Ash
- 100 Student Services, UC Clermont
UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES: Explain, in detail, why you should be considered independent for the 2016-2017 academic year. Note why your parents are unavailable to participate with you in the financial aid application process. Include all pertinent facts that clearly reveal your unusual circumstance.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: I certify that all information and documentation that I have provided pertaining to this appeal is true and complete.

Student's Signature__________________________________ Date_________________

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID OFFICE USE ONLY

Decision: [ ] Approved [ ] Denied Initials___________ Date___________

FAA Statement: __________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

QCS _____________________________________