



2026-2027 Independent Status Verification

Section A – Student Information (Please Print Clearly)

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	UIN
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Section B – Student Personal Circumstances Reason(s)

When completing the 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you selected an option indicating you met the criteria for a student personal circumstance. Check the reason(s) listed below that apply to you and submit the appropriate documentation. **If you cannot provide the documentation outlined on this form, you will likely be considered dependent for financial aid purposes. Your financial aid will be reviewed upon review of this form and accompanying documentation. You will be notified if it is determined that you must make corrections to your 2026-2027 FAFSA.**

- A. You indicated you are married/remarried. You must have been married/remarried as of the date you submitted your original FAFSA, except in rare cases as determined by a financial aid administrator. **Documentation required:** *A copy of your marriage certificate from the Vital Records Office is required.*
- B. Do you have children or other people (excluding your spouse, if married) who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you now and between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027? **Documentation required:** *Complete Section C.*
- C. At any time since you turned 13, were you an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent)? **Documentation required:** *A photocopy of your birth certificate, along with the death certificate(s) for the parent(s) listed on your birth certificate.*
- D. At any time since you turned 13, were you a ward of the court? **Documentation required:** *Photocopies of court documents attesting to ward-of-the-court status.*
- E. At any time since you turned 13, were you in foster care? **Documentation required:** *Photocopies of court documents attesting to foster care status.*
- F. As determined by a court in your state of residence, are you or were you a legally emancipated minor? **Documentation required:** *Photocopies of court documents attesting to emancipated minor status.*
- G. As determined by a court in your state of residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship with someone other than your parent or stepparent? **Documentation required:** *Photocopies of court documents appointing legal guardianship. Notarized letters are NOT legal documents.*

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Section C – Child/Other People Support Verification

****Only complete this section if:**

- a. You indicated **B** above in Section B AND
- b. Your Income is *greater than* the Poverty Guidelines. If your income is less than these guidelines, you are considered to be dependent for financial aid purposes and you must update your FAFSA on the Student Personal Circumstances section by unchecking the option that asks about supporting a child/other people.

2025 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia	
Household Size	Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,650
2	\$21,150
3	\$26,650
4	\$32,150
5	\$37,650
6	\$43,150
7	\$48,650
8	\$54,150
9+	For households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,500 for each additional person.

**Submit ALL documentation listed in numbers 1-6 below, including the chart with number 6.

**If you do not meet the criteria for supporting the person(s) listed below or do not submit documentation, please update the FAFSA with the correct answer to the question that asks about supporting a child/other people. You will not be considered independent for FAFSA.

Submit documentation in #1 - #6 below to verify the support of your child or other people:

- List the names of your children who receive more than half of their support from you now and between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027, or the other people (excluding your spouse, if married) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you now and between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027.

Name	Age	Relationship
Name	Age	Relationship

- Submit a copy of a current lease in your name. If you live with your parents, submit a copy of your lease agreement and cancelled checks. If you do not have a lease agreement for your rent, then you are unable to declare dependency status for these children/other people. Return to the FAFSA and update the question that asks about supporting a child/other people.
- Submit (a) a signed 2024 IRS Federal Tax Return with IRS Schedules 1, 2, and 3 and (b) all 2024 W-2 forms and/or benefit statements for the 2024 tax year.
- Attach copies of birth certificates for the dependents above who are your children. If the people listed above are not your children, submit a signed statement explaining why you feel the individuals listed are other people you support.

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- Submit proof of medical insurance for you and the individuals listed above.
- Complete the following chart detailing the estimated monthly income and expenses (provide specific breakdowns for you and the people listed). If your income does not support the people listed above, you will need to update the question about supporting a child/other people on the FAFSA.

INCOME per Month

Income Projected from Work	\$
Total amount of bills paid on my behalf from parents, friends, etc.	\$
Untaxed Income from Child Support, Veteran Non-educational Benefits, etc.	\$
Untaxed Income from welfare payments, Untaxed Social Security benefits, etc.	\$
Other Income (please list source)	\$
Total Income	\$

EXPENSES per Month

Rent/Housing	\$
Food	\$
Utilities and Cellphone	\$
Transportation Costs	\$
Education/Childcare	\$
Clothing	\$
Insurance	\$
Activities/Entertainment	\$
Other: (list: _____)	\$
Other: (list: _____)	\$

Section D – Statement of Certification

I certify that the information provided on this form and any attachments are true and correct.

Student's Signature

Date

NOTE: Signatures cannot be typed or stamped. They must be a signature.

Section E – Submission Instructions

What you should do:

- Complete this entire worksheet. Answer all questions and SIGN the form.
- Submit ALL documents at the same time.
- Upload this form and all required documents on the UIC Portal.
 - Login to the UIC Portal at <https://my.UIC.edu>
 - Click on the "Student" tab
 - Click on "Financial Aid Menu"
 - You should then be on the Financial Aid "Home" tab
 - Choose the 2026-2027 Award Year
 - Under Unsatisfied Requirements, click "Choose File"

For additional upload instructions, please visit https://docs.financialaid.uic.edu/docs/PDF_upload_guide.pdf.