

2025-2026 Unusual Circumstance Dependency Appeal

Student Name: _____

Student ID: _____



Office of Financial Aid

Under certain circumstances, the Department of Education permits Purdue University Fort Wayne (PFW) to update information on the student's FAFSA to recalculate their eligibility for grants. The unwillingness of your parent(s) to provide parental data on your FAFSA or to help pay for college is NOT an acceptable reason to appeal your dependency status. If you already have a bachelor's degree, you are NOT eligible to appeal as you are ineligible for grants. ***If updates will not help you in any way, your appeal will be denied.***

Please submit the following with this cover letter

(Incomplete appeals will not be processed)

- ☐ Signed, and dated (legible) personal statement including an explanation and any vital information that will help us understand your situation – You must include start and end dates (at least month and year) for all pertinent information
- ☐ Two signed and dated letters of support (on letterhead) from objective third parties documenting their knowledge of your specific situation
- ☐ Additional documentation as required under the chosen appeal type
- ☐ Completed verification form and documentation (if selected)

Appeal Type Selection

(Select all that apply)

- ☐ Orphan, Ward of Court, Foster Care, Emancipated Minor, Legal Guardianship
 - Copy of official federal, state, and/or local legal document(s) detailing the determination
- ☐ Unaccompanied and either homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless
 - Documentation from a Shelter, your High School, or TRIO
- ☐ Death of custodial parent(s)
 - Copy of death certificate(s)
 - Student birth certificate
- ☐ No longer live with parent(s) due to an unsafe home environment (physical, mental, or substance abuse)
 - Court documentation or police reports
- ☐ Cannot locate/contact parent(s)
 - Abandonment, Estrangement, Incarcerated, Institutionalized, Live outside the United States

I understand by signing below I am asking the Purdue University Fort Wayne Financial Aid Office to make the above indicated adjustments to my FAFSA. I further understand that making these adjustments may cause changes to my student account and my bill, and that it is my responsibility to ensure my bill is paid in full with the Bursar after the financial aid adjustments are processed.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appeals can be submitted by fax, mail, or in person. Email submissions and electronic signatures will not be processed.

What Happens Next?

Appeals are handled in the order they are received. Once your form is received you will see it listed on your goPFW account under the Billing and Financial Aid tab. Please monitor your PFW student email for any communication regarding your appeal. If further information is needed to process your appeal, and/or after your appeal has been processed, you will be notified through your PFW student email.

Personal Statement *(or typed additional pages as needed)*

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