

## Professional Judgment Form 2026–2027

Eligibility for 2026–2027 financial aid—including federal, state, and institutional financial aid—is based on your 2024 tax information, which may no longer accurately reflect your current situation. The Higher Education Act, reauthorized in 1998, provides Colleges the ability to make case-by-case adjustments to a student’s financial information so that it reflects their current ability to pay. These adjustments may impact a student's eligibility for financial aid.

Each student will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and additional aid is not guaranteed. Please fill out the following form in its entirety and **submit it through Self-Service**. Incomplete applications will not be processed. Please note that Part 1 is a separate document that you must complete and upload.

### Personal Information

Student Name

Student ID Number

### Part 1: Explanation of Circumstances

Please include an additional document with a typed explanation of your current circumstances which you feel may change your eligibility for financial aid. The more details you provide, the better we will be able to evaluate your situation. **Please upload this document through Self-Service.**

### Part 2: Required Documentation

From the list below, select **any** of the situations that apply to you and then fill out the appropriate section(s). Each section lists the required documents you must submit. The Student Resources and Financial Aid Office may request additional documentation on a case-by-case basis. When at all possible, **official third-party documentation should be provided**. Additionally, each application must include the following verification documents, submitting them through Self-Service:

- Standard Verification document (available on Self-Service, see Helpful Links)
- Applications will not be evaluated until **all** required and requested documents have been submitted through Self-Service. All documents must be submitted through Self-Service. Student Resources and Financial Aid **will not** accept file submissions in any other format.

Special or Unusual Circumstances	Fill Out
Loss of income (due to job change, loss of job, etc.)	Section I
One-time taxable income that increased AGI	Section II
Change in family circumstances (due to separation, divorce, or death)	Section III
Dependency change (dependent to independent)	Section IV

Section I

Loss of Income

Choose either 1-2 or 3-4	Student	Parents (if single)	Spouse (if married)
1. 2025 Adjusted Gross Income			
2. 2025 Income Tax Paid			
3. Income earned from January 1 <sup>st</sup> to date of occurrence (include all taxable income)			
4. 2026 anticipated income through December 31 (include all anticipated sources of income)			

**Required Documents**

Please submit all the below required documents via Self-Service. **If you selected 1-2 above, please submit the following:**

- 2025 tax transcripts for parents and students who filed taxes
- 2025 W2s for parents and students who did not file taxes
- Termination notice showing last day employed (if applicable)
- Severance package (if applicable)

**If you selected 3-4 above, please submit the following:**

- Two most recent paystubs (if working)
- Last two paystubs at prior pay rate
- Termination notice showing last day employed (if applicable)
- Severance package (if applicable)

Section II

One-time taxable income

Recipient of Income	Student	Parent
Source of income		

**Required Documents**

Please submit all the below required documents via Self-Service:

- 2025 tax transcripts for parents and students who filed taxes
- 2025 W2s for parents and students who did not file taxes
- Any documents related to the one-time income (e.g. 1099-R)
- Two most recent paystubs from the recipient of the income

Section III

Change in Family Circumstances

Please select the appropriate option and complete the corresponding section below.

\_\_\_\_\_ Change in Marital Status

\_\_\_\_\_ Death of a Family Member

Change in Marital Status		
Date of Separation / Divorce (mm/dd/yy)		
	Father/Stepfather	Mother/Stepmother
Please indicate the custodial and non-custodial parents:		
Which parent is submitting this Professional Judgment Form		
Please indicate the number of dependents in each parent’s household under the age of 24:		
Please briefly explain the property settlement in the separation / divorce agreement (include property, assets, etc.):		
Are the family members experiencing a change in marital status currently living in two separate households?	Yes	No

**Required Documents**

Please submit all the below required documents via Self-Service:

- Documentation of second household expenses (if applicable)
- Listing of child support and/or alimony expected to be paid and/or received (if applicable)
- Documentation of property settlement (if applicable)

Death of a Family Member		
Relationship of the deceased family member to the student:		
Date of passing (mm/dd/yy):		
Benefits of surviving dependents and spouse (if applicable)	Total Life Insurance Benefits:	
	Monthly Social Security Benefits:	
	Monthly Veterans Adm. Benefits:	
	Monthly Pension:	
Expenses:	Medical (not reimbursed by insurance):	
	Legal Fees:	
	Other (please specify in Part I)	

**Required Documents**

Please submit all the below required documents via Self-Service:

- Documentation of expenses
- Documentation of benefits, with amounts (if applicable)
- Documentation of other distributions from inheritance and assets (if applicable)

Section IV

Change of Dependency

<p>Reasons that <b>do not qualify</b> for a change of dependency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents refuse to contribute to the student’s education</li> <li>• Parents refuse to fill out the FAFSA®</li> <li>• Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for tax purposes</li> <li>• Student is financially self-sufficient</li> </ul>
<p>Stated reasons for requesting a change in dependency. Please check any that apply</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marriage</li> <li>• Marriage Abandonment</li> <li>• Abusive family environment where safety or health are threatened</li> <li>• Unable to locate parents</li> <li>• Unaccompanied student who is self-supporting and at risk of being homeless</li> <li>• Other (please describe the circumstances in Part I)</li> </ul>

**Required Documents**

Please submit all the below required documents via Self-Service:

- Official statements from any of the following that explain your circumstances
- Marriage Certificate
- All tax items generally required for requested dependency status
- Mental health professionals
- High school counselors
- Social workers, mentors
- Doctors
- Clergy
- Law enforcement agencies