



Dependency Override Guidance, Policy, and Procedure

Last Updated: 10/2/2009

Student's Name: _____

Student's Cheyney ID Number: _____

Student's Cell Number (required): _____

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) requires all applicants to respond to a series of questions intended to determine a student's dependency status. With regard to financial aid awarding, dependency is defined in one of two ways: dependent (dependent on parents (birth or step)) or independent (not dependent on parents (birth or step)). Under certain specific circumstances the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Office of Financial Aid will override a student's status, changing dependency from dependent to independent. Decisions regarding dependency overrides are the sole responsibility of the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Department of Financial Aid and cannot be appealed.

In order to be considered for a dependency override you must complete steps A, B, and C below:

Step A:

Submit a letter stating the reason for your appeal, noting specific dates and circumstances were appropriate. It is important that the specific reason for the break from your parents is noted. Please note as well how you have organized living arrangements since the break.

Step B:

Submit a letter from an adult advocate (family friend, school counselor, social services employee, member of clergy, etc.) supporting your claim of independent status. Please be sure the advocate notes how long he/she has been associated with your situation.

Step C:

Mail your letters and this form (completed) to:

Chris Hanlon, Director of Financial Aid

1837 University Circle

P.O. Box 200

Cheyney, PA 19319-0200