## Dependency Override Cover Sheet

### Student Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UTD ID</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Purpose

The law governing the Federal Student Aid programs is based on the premise that the family is the first source of your support. The law provides several criteria that indicate whether you are to be considered independent of your parents when considering your eligibility for financial aid. These criteria are indicated on the FAFSA.

Federal laws and regulations give a campus financial aid administrator (FAA) the authority to determine a student is independent on a case-by-case basis for a student with unusual circumstances. The regulations specifically prohibit the FAA from using any of the following as the reason for the use of this discretion:

- A parent’s refusal to contribute to your education.
- Your parents are unwilling to provide information needed to complete the FAFSA or the verification process.
- Your parents do not provide you with financial support and do not list you as a dependent on their taxes.
- You have been supporting yourself financially.

If a college, university or school has decided to process your application as an independent student the decision does not apply to any other school. Each school must reach this decision on their own. Additionally, this determination must be made annually with the processing of each FAFSA.

**NOTE:** The decision of the campus Financial Aid Administrator is final. It cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education.

### Required Documentation

**Personal Statement:** A signed and dated written explanation outlining the reason you believe your parents’ financial information should not be considered when measuring your eligibility for need-based financial aid.

- The criterion we will use to make our decision is whether there is an irreconcilable split in the family bonds between you and your parents and the reason for that split.

**Supporting Statements:** Two or more letters from someone in a counseling or law enforcement role who can attest to your situation. The letters must be on letterhead. These letters can be from clergy, school counselors, teachers, doctors, mental health professionals, attorneys or law enforcement officers.