2015-2016 Dependency Override Form

A. Completing this form.
For consideration of this waiver, you must complete this form and attach the supporting documentation listed below. Incomplete applications can not be reviewed. Students must re-apply for a dependency override each year. The deadline date for submission of all materials is the 12th class day of the first semester of the student's enrollment for the academic year.

B. Purpose of Dependency Override
According to the federal regulations, dependent students are required to use natural or adoptive parents information only when completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). On a case-by-case basis the Office of Student Financial Assistance may make a professional judgment and waive the submission of parental information for dependent students.

By Law, The following conditions do not qualify as “unusual circumstances” or do not merit a dependency override (1) parents refusing to contribute to a student’s education; (2) Parents unwilling to provide information on the application or for verification; (3) parents not claiming the student as dependent for income tax purposes;(4) students demonstrating self-sufficiency. Also, A student not living with their parents does not automatically qualify the student for a dependency override.

C. Applicant name and address (please print)

Student’s First and Last Name

Student Address

Email Address

Student ID Number

Phone Number

D. Required Documentation (all students)
The following items must be submitted with this form for the appeal to be considered. Incomplete appeals will not be reviewed.

1. A brief letter of explanation. The letter must explain why you are requesting a dependency override; contain information on both parents; indicate with whom you are currently residing; and how you provided for your expenses in 2014.

2. Did you file a 2014 IRS tax return?
   - Yes, attach a copy of the 2014 IRS Tax Return Transcript with this application and verification worksheet—not photocopies of the income tax return. To obtain an IRS tax return transcript go to www.IRS.gov and click on the “Order a Return or Account Transcript” link, or call 1-800-908-9946. Order the Tax Return Transcript, the tax account transcript is not an acceptable form of documentation; verify you are requesting the, “2014 IRS TAX RETURN TRANSCRIPT.”
   - No, attach a completed and signed TSU Independent Verification standard worksheet and TSU Low Income Form.

3. Two letters from independent sources such as a teacher, the AFDC agency, a social worker, a psychologist, a minister, a counselor, the organization with which you lived in 2014 or some other official source who can verify your independence from your parents. All letters must be notarized or submitted on an official letterhead for the organization and include telephone number and signature of the individual writing the supporting statement.

E. Student’s Certification:
Warning: By signing this form you confirm that the information is true. If you use this form to establish eligibility for federal student aid and purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined $10,000, sentenced to jail or both.

Student’s Signature___________________________ Date____________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY --Do not write below this line

Action taken: Approved_________ Denied_________

Professional judgment comments:
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Reviewed by: ____________________________ Date:______________________________

Please send your documents to:
Texas Southern University
Office of Student Financial Assistance
3100 Cleburne Street • Houston, TX 77004