TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY
ESTABLISHED 1794

2027-2028 DEPENDENCY STATUS APPEAL FORM

Last Name _____First Name _____ Student Id # _____

Permanent Address _____City _____State _____Zip _____

Local Telephone Number _____E-mail address _____

REASONS FOR APPEAL:

If you are considered a dependent student according to Department of Education guidelines and believe your circumstances qualify you as an independent student, you can appeal your dependency status. A severe situation must exist in your family. Please Note: Self-sufficiency or unwillingness on the part of your parent(s)/stepparent(s) to assist you financially is not a basis for an appeal in the absence of extenuating circumstances.

Some situations that may merit appeal include:

- Marriage of the student
- Physical or emotional abuse
- Estrangement
- Abandonment
- Parental drug abuse
- Parental mental incapacity
- Other situation beyond your control _____

Documents Required for Dependency Appeal:

- A completed 2027-2028 FAFSA
- A copy of your 2025 Federal Tax Return Transcript, W-2 form(s) and any 1099's. You may obtain a tax return transcript online at www.irs.gov or call the IRS at 1-800-908-9946 and follow the prompts to request a Tax Return Transcript for 2025.
- Provide a written personal statement describing your circumstances and your relationship with your parent(s)/step-parent(s). Include supporting documentation. Your statement should be complete and specific.
- Signed statements explaining your circumstances from two or more professional adults, including: clergy, court officials, guidance counselors, teachers, professors, doctors, family counselors, mental health professionals, or law enforcement officers.

Documents Required for Dependency Appeal - Marriage Basis ONLY**

- A completed 2027-2028 FAFSA
- A copy of you and your spouse's 2025 Federal Tax Return Transcript, W-2 form(s) and any 1099's. You may obtain a tax return transcript online at www.irs.gov or call the IRS at 1-800-908-9946 and follow the prompts to request a Tax Return Transcript for 2025.
- A copy of your marriage certificate.

**Note: Due to federal regulations, students may not automatically qualify for independent status when filing future FAFSA's. Your Financial Aid Administrator will provide you guidance on any additional appeals.

My signature below certifies the information I have provided on this appeal is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any fraudulent documentation. I understand if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false statements or fraudulent documentation, my appeal will be denied, and my eligibility for financial aid may be terminated.

Student Signature _____Date _____