



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN/ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section C: Required Letters of Support**

1. Submit a **typed, signed narrative** from you detailing the unusual circumstances which you believe we should consider when determining your dependency status. Include a description of the last time you had contact with **each** of your biological parents (when, where, and the nature of the contact).
2. Submit a **signed** statement from another individual who is aware of your unusual circumstances. The letter of support should include:
  - Individual's name and relationship to you.
  - Explanation of their knowledge regarding your unusual circumstances.
  - Explanation of their knowledge of your relationship and last contact you had with your biological parents.
  - Additional information relevant to your circumstances.
3. Submit a **signed statement from a professional on official letterhead** who can attest to your situation from a professional capacity (examples include, but are not limited to, high school and professional counselors, social workers, teachers, police officers, and religious leaders). Copies of appropriate court documents may also be acceptable upon review.

**Additional documentation may be required.**

***You MUST include your (student's) name and CCU ID number on all documents submitted. Failure to do so will result in a delay of the processing of your documents.***

**Additional information regarding the professional judgment appeal option for a dependency override:**

Financial aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility of meeting educational costs for a student. If you are considered a dependent student according to the financial aid definition (U. S. Department of Education), your aid eligibility is determined by using parent information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signature to be considered for federal financial aid. Congress has established several criteria that automatically classify a student as independent. If you meet at least one of these criteria, you are considered an independent student. Please consult a financial aid counselor for specific criteria.

Occasionally, due to unusual circumstances, students should not be considered dependent. If you can document why you should be considered independent for an unusual reason, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information. Note that your status as an independent student cannot be based solely on your income (or resources) and you may be asked for additional documentation.

**Certification and Signature:**

Signing this addendum certifies that all information reported is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. **Typed/computer generated signatures will not be accepted.** I understand that I may be required to provide additional documentation in support of my appeal if requested by Financial Aid and Scholarships. I understand that missing documentation may result in denial of my appeal. I understand that submission of this form and supporting documentation does not guarantee approval. I further understand that Financial Aid and Scholarships reserves the right to review appeals on a case-by-case basis and any decision reached is final and cannot be appealed.

Please be aware that Coastal Carolina University complies with the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, et seq., and subsequent regulations, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in all programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. In the event that the information you share in this appeal process is subject to a Title IX violation, it is mandated that any Coastal Carolina University employee must report that disclosure to the University's Title IX Coordinator.

**WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return completed form to: Coastal Carolina University / Financial Aid and Scholarships / P.O. Box 261954 / Conway, SC 29528-6054  
Fax Number: 843-349-2347. Secure upload: [www.coastal.edu/aidupload](http://www.coastal.edu/aidupload)