Northeastern Illinois University Financial Aid, Scholarships and Student Employment

5500 North Saint Louis Avenue ● D Building Room 200 ●Chicago, IL 60625-4699● 773-442-5016 ● Fax: 773-442-5040
Financial-aid@neiu.edu ● neiu.edu/financial-aid ● Check your financial aid status at neiu.edu/neiuport (My Financial Aid)

2026-2027 Change in Dependency Status Appeal

Student's First Name		6-digit NEIU Student ID#	
Student's Last Name		Phone Number	

There are federal requirements that a student must meet to qualify for financial aid as an independent student on the **FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. If you do not meet one of the criteria listed on the FAFSA, you will be reviewed as a dependent student, meaning that your parents must provide income and asset information. In reviewing an appeal for a Change in Dependency Status, the federal guidelines suggest that the financial aid administrator consider those situations where it is ***necessary*** for the student to live separately from parents. This does not include students who make a ***voluntary*** decision to leave home nor does it include students who married after the completion of the FAFSA. If you believe that your file warrants re-evaluation as an independent student, please submit this form along with **all** requested documents to the NEIU Financial Aid Office. A determination will be made and you will be notified in writing.

1. On a separate sheet of paper, **please attach a typewritten explanation** addressing the necessary separation from your parents, qualifying you to be considered an independent student. Please attach any supporting documentation of your circumstance(s). **INCOMPLETE REQUESTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

2. During the 2026-2027 academic year you will be residing:
   ☐ with parents* ☐ with relatives ☐ in an apartment (attach copy of apartment lease)

   ***NOTE: Not living with your parents or self-support do not automatically classify you as an independent student.**

3. Were you claimed as a dependent on any other person's 2024 Federal Tax Return? _____

4. Did you receive financial aid in the 2025-2026 academic year as an independent student? _____

5. If you answered "yes" to question #4, please list the name of the school that you attended and attach a copy of the appeal from the other school. Please note overrides performed by previous institutions are not automatically approved.
   _____

6. If you received income that was not listed on your 2024 IRS Tax return please indicate the amount and the source of that income (include cash gifts from parents/relatives/friends, general assistance, 2025-2026 credit balance financial aid etc.):

   Amount: $_____ Source: _____

   Amount: $_____ Source: _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURE: I certify that all information reported is complete and correct. I understand that changes in my FAFSA financial information based on the documentation provided may result in a change in financial aid eligibility.

_____

Student's Signature Date