

2026-2027 Special Circumstances Petition

Your federal eligibility for the 2026-2027 academic year is based on financial resources reported on the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) based on your 2024 income and employment. If your financial circumstances have changed significantly since then you may use this form to request the financial aid office to consider reducing the income you reported on your FAFSA to better reflect your current financial situation. Your (and/or your spouse's if married) 2025 or your expected 2026 income must be significantly less than what was reported in 2024 to be considered. Submitting this petition may result in increased federal grant eligibility; however, it does not mean that any additional institutional aid would be available. This petition is available for students pursuing their first undergraduate degree.

Application Deadlines

Fall - November 20, 2026

Spring - March 26, 2027

Summer - July 23, 2027

Student Name _____ Student ID Number _____

To be considered for this petition, you will need to complete this form and attach the following items in a single document:

- ☐ Written statement explaining your special circumstances.
- ☐ New income supporting documentation.

Qualifying Event

☐ RECENT LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT

You or your spouse were employed in 2024 but now are unemployed AND have been receiving unemployment benefits for the past 90 days.

☐ REDUCTION IN INCOME

You or your spouse have/has experienced a significant loss in income due to loss of a job, disability, reduction in work hours, etc. since 2024.

Who has had reduced income?

Please choose the year you will be reporting.

☐ You

☐ 2025

☐ Your Spouse

☐ 2026

☐ RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY

You or your spouse were released from Active Duty since 2024 and your income is now significantly less.

☐ YOU MARRIED AFTER 2024.

Please be advised that the following situations will NOT be considered for a Reduction of Income: reduction in overtime pay, bankruptcy, retirement, tuition paid for elementary/secondary private schooling, personal expenses (i.e. wedding, credit card bills, mortgage/loan payments, childcare), business losses, shifts in commission sales, one-year bonus incomes (e.g. lottery/gambling winnings, pension payments, legal awards), or stock market losses.

Supporting Documentation of New Income - REQUIRED

- ☐ Signed copies of your 2024 and 2025 IRS Forms 1040 or IRS Tax Return Transcripts
- ☐ Your 2024 and 2025 W-2s or IRS Wage and Income Transcripts or IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter
- ☐ If reporting expected income for the 2026 year, please provide documentation of all income earned to date and as much information as possible to justify your estimate of income for the remainder of the 2026 year. This may include check stubs with year-to-date earnings, documentation of benefits, etc.
- ☐ An official termination letter or separation agreement
- ☐ Documentation of unemployment benefits

Certification

By submitting this form, all persons signing below certify that all the information reported is complete and correct. Providing false or misleading information to obtain federal grants is a crime punishable by fines, loss of aid, and/or jail sentence.

Once we receive all required documents, we will review your request. You will receive a response within 30 days of receipt. Incomplete petitions will be denied.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Spouse's Signature _____ Date _____

-----FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY-----

Reviewed _____

Approved _____

Submitted _____

Received _____

Update _____

Notification _____

Notes _____
