



**Enrollment Services**  
**125 Michigan Avenue NE**  
**Washington DC 20017**  
 202.884.9530 fax: 202.884.9524

**Petition to Apply for Financial Aid as an Independent Applicant**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SS#: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Award Year: 2009-2010

Financial aid regulations assume that the family has primary responsibility for meeting the educational costs of students. If you are considered a dependent student according to the federal definition, your aid eligibility is determined by using parent income and asset information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required by law to provide parental information and signatures to be considered for financial aid.

Occasionally, due to unusual or extenuating circumstances, students should not be considered as dependent. If you can document why you should be considered independent due to an unusual reason, you may petition for a waiver of federal regulations requiring parental information. The fact that you are self-supporting, in and of itself, is not considered an unusual or extenuating circumstance.

**Directions:** On a separate piece of paper, please address all of the following:

1. Identify the location of both your parents.
2. Describe the last time you had contact with each of your parents - when, where, and the nature of the contact.
3. Explain what unusual or extenuating circumstances should make you an independent student.
4. Describe how you have been self-supporting: a) when did you start meeting your expenses without parental support; and b) how have you provided for yourself?
5. Provide a copy of a lease and a utility bill in your name.
6. Provide statements from two responsible adults who are aware of your situation. At least one statement must be from someone who is not a relative or friend, such as a school counselor, physician, or minister. Copies of appropriate court documents are acceptable to support your petition.
7. Certify below: I have attached statements from the following persons:

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information provided in this petition is true and correct:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_