

## Proof of Orphan/Ward of the Court Status

## Office of Financial Aid/Veterans' Affairs

Please return this form with the requested information or documentation

Name (Last)	(First)	(M.I.)		Student ID #
Address (Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Phone

Your status for financial aid as an Independent student is based solely on your answer to question 53 on the FAFSA regarding your status as an **Orphan or Ward of the Court.** Therefore, the Department of Education requires that you submit legal documentation verifying that situation. To verify your status of Orphan or Ward of the Court, we will require the following:

- ORPHAN: A copy of both parents death certificates and a copy of your birth certificate or a copy of one parent's death certificate and a copy of your birth certificate showing only one parent's name. In order to be considered independent, your status as an orphan must have occurred at some point since your 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- 2. <u>WARD OF THE COURT:</u> Court orders or a letter from your DSS (Department of Social Services) case worker indicating that you are/were a ward of the court at some point since your 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Please submit this documentation to our office as soon as possible so that we may continue the processing of your award.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Aid office at 704-330-6942.

Warning: According to the U.S. Department of Education, if you purposely give false or misleading information on form, you may be subject to a fine of up to \$20,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.