



United States Merchant Marine Academy

Office of Financial Aid
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www.usmma.edu

Dependent Student / Independent Student
AY: 2024-2025

Students Name: _____

Special Circumstances for Professional Judgement/Dependency Change

In some cases, where there has been a change in a student’s financial or family situation, consideration may be made in order to increase the student’s financial aid eligibility. Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of circumstances that may be considered for professional judgment.

- **Change in employment status (loss of job, reduction in hours)**
- **Change in Marital Status**
- **Death, Disability, or Serious Illness of a wage earner**
- **Medical or Dental expenses not covered by insurance**
- **Eldercare expenses**
- **Unusually high child care costs**
- **Tuition expenses at a private elementary or secondary school**
- **Parent in college at least half-time**
- **Losses incurred due to a natural disaster (hurricane, tornado, flood area)**
- **Losses incurred due to structure fire of home and loss of contents**

Personal Statement

You may be asked to provide additional documentation such as financial statements, pay stubs, medical/dental bills, death certificate, court documents, notarized statements of separation, proof of unemployment/termination notice, invoices, W-2 forms, tax transcripts, verification worksheet.

Certification and Signatures

Each person signing this worksheet certifies that all of the information on it is complete and correct. **I understand that once this information is submitted it may not be amended without supporting documentation.** Electronic corrections to your FAFSA may be made by USMMA’s Office of Financial Aid if there are discrepancies between the information on this form and the data you filed on your FAFSA. Signatures are required by the student and one parent.

Student Signature: _____

Date

Parent Signature: _____

Date

WARNING: IF YOU PURPOSELY GIVE FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION, YOU MAY BE FINED, SENT TO PRISON, OR BOTH