United States Merchant Marine Academy
Office of Financial Aid   300 Steamboat Road, Kings Point NY 11024
T: 516.726.5638   www.usmma.edu
F: 516.773.5390
financialaid@usmma.edu

Dependent Student / Independent Student   **Students Name:** _____
AY: 2025-2026

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 or significant change in employment earnings)**
- **Change in Marital Status**
- **Death, Disability, or Serious Illness of a wage earner**
- **Excessive out-of-pocket medical expenses that exceed 11% of the household's Adjusted Gross Income**
- **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

<u>You may be asked</u> 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

<u>**WARNING: IF YOU PURPOSELY GIVE FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION, YOU MAY BE FINED, SENT TO PRISON, OR BOTH**</u>