

Petition for Independent Status 2026-2027

Last Name	First Name	MI	SSN: _____
Address (include apt # if applicable)		Date of Birth	SID: _____
City	State	ZIP Code	Daytime Phone (include area code)

I certify that all information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

For financial aid eligibility you are considered dependent unless you meet one of the following conditions:

- A. You are over 24 years of age. (By December 31 of the award year.)
- B. You are a veteran of the US Armed Forces.
- C. You are a graduate or professional student in a program beyond a bachelor's degree.
- D. You are married.
- E. You are an orphan or a ward of the court or were a ward of the court until age 18.
- F. You have legal dependents other than a spouse.

If you cannot answer "yes" to one of these items, you are a dependent student for financial aid purposes and your aid eligibility is determined by using parent income and asset information in addition to your information. Dependent students are required to provide parental information and signatures to be considered for financial aid. **Please note: Simply living apart from your parents does not qualify you as an independent student for financial aid purposes. We cannot approve a petition based solely on a family's unwillingness or inability to support a student's college education or its unwillingness to provide the required information.**

However, if you cannot provide parent information due to unusual family circumstances, you may petition to apply for aid without parent information. For this purpose, an unusual circumstance includes, but is not limited to, a permanent, irreconcilable break in the relationship with the parent(s) due to abuse, abandonment, or extreme mistreatment. It may also include being an Unaccompanied youth who is homeless - or an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth at risk of being homeless = as defined under the McKinney-Vento Act.

If you wish to be considered independent, please complete the back of this form, including the state of your current living situation and explaining your circumstances as to why you cannot provide your parent(s) information.

Submit this form by mail, email, or in person. For questions, please contact our office by phone or email.
Financial Aid | 1300 Fifth Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 | Email: financialaid@wvc.edu | Phone (509) 682-6810

OFFICE USE ONLY:	_____ Approved per Professional Judgment	_____ Denied
Comments:		
Initials _____	Date _____	PP Note: _____

COMPLETE ALL FOUR OF THE STEPS BELOW:

- 1) ☐ 2026-2027 FAFSA **OR** ☐ 2026-2027 WASFA has been submitted online. Date submitted _____
- 2) ☐ Attached is a completed 2026-2027 Independent Verification Worksheet (**verification form may be required later if not completed at the time this form is submitted**)

3) I believe I meet the criteria for independent status because:

- A. ☐ I am an Unaccompanied Youth (dependent student) who is currently Homeless **OR** who is self-supporting and at risk of being Homeless. *Self-supporting means you (and not a parent) are responsible for your needs, even if someone else [not your parent] is currently assisting you by offering shelter and necessities. Attach **at least one statement** from a responsible adult who is aware of your situation and can corroborate the facts you present. This may be, but does not have to be, a person you have been staying with. All statements should be signed, dated, and include contact information (e.g. name, phone, address).*

My Current housing status is:

- ☐ Rental (my name is on the lease) **OR** ☐ College Dorm **OR** ☐ Staying with someone other than legal parent/guardian, where I could be asked to leave at any time **AND** (check all that apply)
- ☐ I am at risk of homelessness due to inability to pay rent
- ☐ I am having to choose between paying rent and other living expenses (utilities, food, etc.)
- ☐ If I lose this housing, I have nowhere else to go and would be homeless
- ☐ Moving from place to place/couch surfing
- ☐ Staying in a shelter **OR** ☐ Transitional Housing (attach letter from shelter or housing)
- ☐ A car, park, campsite, or similar location
- ☐ Staying in a motel
- ☐ In a residence with inadequate facilities (no water, heat, electricity, etc.)
- ☐ Other _____

- B. ☐ I have a severed Relationship with my legal parent[s]. Attach **at least two pieces of documentation or statements** from responsible adults who are aware of your situation and can corroborate the facts you present. Examples of such persons would include clergy, social workers or other social service personnel, court officials (or copies of court documents), teachers or high school counselors and police officers. **Statements and/or documents should be signed, dated, and include contact information (e.g. name, phone, address).**

4) Student Statement. Explain why you cannot obtain Parent Information. List the location of both your parents, the last time you received financial support and the last time you had contact with each of them: when, where, and the nature of the contact.

(Attach additional sheets as necessary)