



2026-2027 INITIAL UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE REQUEST

An Unusual Circumstance Request allows Texas A&M University–Victoria to review situations in which it is unreasonable to expect parental information and support to be provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

This application is available to you if:

1. You do not meet the federal definition of an Independent student for financial aid purposes; AND
2. You have a documented unusual circumstance that makes it unreasonable to assess your parent(s)' ability to contribute toward your educational expenses.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

To apply for an Initial Unusual Circumstance determination, submit the following:

- ☐ Completed 2026-2027 FAFSA (www.studentaid.gov)
- ☐ Completed Initial Unusual Circumstance Applicant Form
- ☐ 2026-2027 Independent Verification Worksheet
- ☐ 2024 IRS Tax Return Transcript (if you filed taxes)
- ☐ All 2024 W-2 Forms and/or 1099 Forms (if you earned income)
- ☐ 2024 Student Non-Filer Form (if you did not file taxes and were not required to file)
- ☐ Statement Explaining Your Circumstance
- ☐ One signed Personal Reference Letter from an individual with direct knowledge of your circumstances
- ☐ One signed Professional Reference Letter from an individual acting in a professional capacity who has direct knowledge of your circumstances
- ☐ Additional supporting documentation (if available)

STATEMENT EXPLAINING YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

Please provide a detailed explanation of your unusual circumstance.

Your statement should address:

- The whereabouts of your biological parent(s) and their current living arrangements.
- The last contact you had with your biological parent(s) and the frequency of contact during the past several years.
- Why you cannot provide parental information on the 2026-2027 FAFSA.
- Your living arrangements during the past several years.
- Who has provided financial support for you.
- Any additional information you believe should be considered.

PERSONAL REFERENCE LETTER

The personal reference letter should include:

- Reference's full name
- Relationship to the student
- Length of time they have known the student

- Knowledge of the student's relationship with parent(s)
- Knowledge of the student's living arrangements
- Why the reference believes it is unreasonable to expect parental support
- Signature and date
- Contact information

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE LETTER

The professional reference letter should include:

- Professional's name and title
- Organization (if applicable)
- Length of time they have known the student
- Professional knowledge of the student's circumstances
- Why the professional believes it is unreasonable to expect parental support
- Signature and date
- Contact information

The Office of Financial Aid may request additional documentation if necessary to evaluate your request.



2026-2027 INITIAL UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE APPLICANT FORM

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Information

Student Name _____
UID _____
Phone Number _____
TAMUV Email Address _____

EXPENSES AND RESOURCE INFORMATION

EXPENSES	Monthly	RESOURCES / INCOME	Monthly
Housing/Rent	_____	Earnings from Employment	_____
Food	_____	Unemployment Compensation	_____
Car Payment/Insurance	_____	Withdrawals from Savings	_____
Car Maintenance/Gas	_____	Social Security Benefits	_____
Utilities/Telephone/Cable	_____	Welfare/TANF Benefits	_____
Child Support/Alimony Paid	_____	Child Support Received	_____
Credit Card Payments	_____	Alimony Received	_____
Clothing	_____	Cash Received from Family/Friends	_____
Personal Entertainment	_____	VA Benefits	_____
Child Care	_____	Financial Aid Received	_____
Medical/Dental Insurance	_____	Housing/Food/Living Allowances	_____
Other	_____	Other	_____
TOTAL EXPENSES	_____	TOTAL RESOURCES	_____

STUDENT CERTIFICATION

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

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE USE ONLY

☐ Approved

☐ Denied

Date: _____

OFA Initials: _____