



2025-2026
Unaccompanied Youth
Or
Homelessness

Financial Aid
Office
Use

You have indicated on FAFSA that you are either an unaccompanied youth or homeless. If you can prove this, we will use only your information to base your financial aid on. RETURN SIGNED FORM TO CCC FA OFFICE

STUDENT NAME

The Higher Education Act (HEA) uses the [McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "homeless,"](#) which includes youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and the McKinney-Vento Act's definition of "unaccompanied," which includes youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. This definition is broader than shelters or the streets; it includes staying with others temporarily due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, and staying in motels due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) defines the term "at-risk of homelessness" to refer to students whose housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate.

DETERMINATIONS BY AUTHORIZED ENTITIES

Financial aid administrators will accept documentation from any of the entities who are authorized to verify a youth's status as an unaccompanied homeless youth, or as a youth who is unaccompanied, self-supporting, and at risk of homelessness, unless there is "specific documented conflicting information."

Documentation from any of the following authorized entities attesting to homelessness or an unaccompanied youth, or was unaccompanied, self-supporting, and at risk of homelessness, any time since July 1, 2024:

School district homeless liaison or designee;

A financial aid administrator at another institution who previously made a determination.

The director or a designee of an emergency/transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth center, or other program serving homeless individuals

The director or a designee of a program funded under a TRIO /Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for an Undergraduate program (GEAR UP grant);

DETERMINATIONS BASED ON DOCUMENTED INTERVIEWS OR WRITTEN STATEMENTS

If not able to obtain documentation from at least one of the parties listed above, a FAA will make a determination based on a documented interview or a written statement from the student. The determination must be made based on the legal definitions of homeless and unaccompanied contained in the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act, and independently from the reasons that the student is an unaccompanied homeless youth, or is a youth who is unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self-supporting.

Please Give us information about your situation

1. In which of the situations do you currently reside, or in which situation would you reside if you were not staying in on-campus housing (you may choose more than one):

Motel

Car

Campsite

Shelter or other temporary housing program

Substandard housing (insufficiently meeting physical/psychological needs typically met in a home)

Temporarily staying w/ others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason

2. If you are staying with another household, check the circumstances that apply:

Loss of housing

Economic hardship resulting in inability to secure and maintain fixed/regular/adequate housing

Other (ex: not safe to live w/ parent /guardian, forced leave home etc.

Use this space to explain:

If student is saying w/ others, where would they live if they could NOT stay at current location?

CONSIDERATIONS FOR THOSE WHO ARE SELF-SUPPORTING & AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

1. Is the student self-supporting? (student is responsible for his/her own living expenses, including fixed, regular, and adequate housing.) ___ Yes ___ No
2. Is the student's housing likely to cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate? Is the student at-risk of homelessness due to eviction or other loss of housing? ___ Yes ___ No

-----OFFICE USE ONLY-----

ACTION TAKEN

- Independent student status as an unaccompanied homeless youth or a youth who is unaccompanied and self-supporting and risk of homelessness **CONFIRMED**
- Independent student status **NOT CONFIRMED**. Please explain and include next steps for assisting student with the FAFSA:

Name & Title (PRINT):

Signature (REQUIRED):

Date: