FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

# 2013-2014 REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DEPENDENCY STATUS

A student is considered a “dependent” student and must provide parental information unless the student meets one of the following conditions:

- was born **before** January 1, 1990
- is married
- at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year will be working on a master’s or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate)
- is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training
- is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces
- has children who receive more than half of their support from you
- has legal dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you
- at any time since you turned age 13, both your parents were deceased, you were in foster care or you were a dependent or ward of the court
- you were or are an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence
- you were or are in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence
- at any time on or after July 1, 2012 your high school or school district homeless liaison determined that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless
- at any time on or after July 1, 2012 the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determined that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless

  **OR**

- is a student for whom a financial aid administrator makes a documented determination of independence by reason of other unusual circumstances.

## Unusual Circumstances

GCC may be able to change your dependency status if unusual circumstances exist **that make it impossible for you to have contact with your parents**. Examples of unusual circumstances are:

- a parent is incarcerated or institutionalized;
- you moved out of your parents’ home due to adverse or abusive home conditions when you were under 18 years of age;
- for the majority of your childhood you were raised by people other than your parents

If your family situation involves an unusual circumstance such as those described above, you may request a review of your dependency status. All requests will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Office, but not all requests are granted.

Note: Being considered independent does not automatically make you eligible for more financial aid. You may actually have more financial aid eligibility as a dependent student.

## Required Documentation

In order for the Financial Aid Office to consider your request to review your dependency status, we need additional information and documentation of your family circumstances. You must complete ALL of the attached forms. **Do not leave any question blank.** If any part of any form is left blank it will not be accepted.

- A personal statement of explanation (be specific), **and**
- Completion of "Student's Statement of Information", **and**
- Two (2) written affidavits on official letterhead from third parties who know your situation, such as, a teacher, a counselor, or a social worker; affidavits from GCC employees, other students and/or friends are not considered an independent third party, **and**
- If relevant, copies of court records, police reports, etc.

Student's Name _____ GCC ID# _____

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

# 2013-2014 PERSONAL STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

## For Review of Dependency Status

Please print or type below your statement of "unusual circumstances", detailing conditions that exist that make it impossible for you to have contact with your parents and why you feel the Financial Aid Office should change your status. (If you need additional space, please continue on the back of this form.)

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**IMPORTANT**

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify that all information on this form is true, complete, and accurate. Upon request, I agree to provide proof of the information reported on this form. False statements or misrepresentation can be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid. I give permission to the Financial Aid Office to make corrections/adjustments to data on my FAFSA based on forms and/or documents submitted. ***I understand that I must report changes of the above information to the Financial Aid Office.***

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

FAO: ☐ Appeal **APPROVED** ☐ Appeal **DENIED** Date _____ FAO Initial _____

Reason: _____

_____

_____

Student's Name _____ GCC ID# _____

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

# 2013-2014 STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

(To be completed by the *student* - Do not leave any question blank)

**1)** What is your parents' current address?

Mother's Address: _____

Father's Address: _____

**2)** When is the last time you:

a) received support from Mother _____/_____ (MONTH / YEAR) Father _____/_____ (MONTH / YEAR)

b) lived with Mother _____/_____ (MONTH / YEAR) Father _____/_____ (MONTH / YEAR)

**3)** How have you supported yourself since you left your parents? (if you need more space use the back of this form)

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**4)** What were your income and/or resources in?

| | **2010** 1/1/10 - 12/31/10 | **2011** 1/1/11 - 12/31/11 | **2012** 1/1/12 - 12/31/12 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Income/Wages | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Savings | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Benefits (SSI, GR, etc.) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Financial Aid | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Cash Support from Others | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Other: (explain on back of form) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

**CERTIFICATION:** I certify that all information on this form is true, complete, and accurate. Upon request, I agree to provide proof of the information reported on this form. False statements or misrepresentation can be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of financial aid. I give permission to the Financial Aid Office to make corrections/adjustments to data on my FAFSA based on forms and/or documents submitted. ***I understand that I must report changes of the above information to the Financial Aid Office.***

Student's Signature _____ Date _____