



COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education



CASFA
COLORADO APPLICATION FOR
STATE FINANCIAL AID

Unusual Circumstances Support





CASFA unusual circumstances students do not have a parent to sign documents for them. The new Provisional Independent Status from FAFSA will allow financial aid administrators to make a final determination of whether these students should receive a dependency override.

Examples of Unusual Circumstances:

- Human trafficking
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status
- Parental abandonment or estrangement
- Student or parental incarceration

Some Examples of Student Scenarios NOT under Unusual Circumstances:

- Living with a family member in the U.S. does not constitute special unusual circumstances (if family has legal custody of the student, the student will complete the CASFA using the guardians' information).
- Students under age 24 living on their own or with a partner (unmarried) and paying their own bills still must use parental information (UNLESS they have a child; then they become an independent student regardless of age).