



INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

2025-2026 UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES: UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH DETERMINATION



You may wish to refer to the Appeal for Dependency Override form if your situation is different than those indicated below. This form should be completed if:

- You are 23 years of age or younger, and
- You answered “no” to all other dependency status questions on the 2025-2026 FAFSA, and
- You do not have and cannot get documentation showing the determination by a school district homeless liaison or designee; director or designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving those experiencing homelessness; director or designee of a project supported by a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant; or Financial Aid Administrator at another institution that after July 1, 2024 you were an unaccompanied homeless (or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless) youth.

Definitions

Homeless Youth Definitions

- At risk of being homeless—when a student’s housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate (e.g., a student who is being evicted and has been unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing).
- Homeless—lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing.
- Self-supporting—when a student pays for his or her own living expenses, including fixed, regular, and adequate housing.
- Unaccompanied—when a student is not living in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.
- Youth—a student who is 21 years old or younger or still enrolled in high school as of the date of signing the FAFSA.

Housing Definitions

- Fixed—stationary, permanent, and not subject to change.
- Regular—used on a predictable, routine, or consistent basis.
- Adequate—sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in the home.

Student Identification

_____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____
 First Name

_____ OR _____ () - _____
 Student ID Last 4 Digits of SSN Phone Number

Basis for Consideration (Check One)

- I am 23 years old or younger and am unaccompanied and homeless
- I am 23 years old or younger and am unaccompanied, self-supporting, and at risk of being homeless

Requested Documentation: Please submit two (2) letters detailing your circumstances. These letters should provide enough detailed information for our office to make an informed determination of your circumstance. If possible, please include contact information for the individuals writing the letters.

- A letter from you, the student, detailing your situation.
- A letter from a person who knows and understands your, the student’s, situation—preferably someone with whom the student at some point has found temporary housing—explaining the circumstances and indicating that person’s association to you, the student.

Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you cannot provide the requested documentation. We understand that your situation is personal, and we hold your information in the highest confidentiality. Only authorized financial aid personnel or others deemed necessary by law have access to your information.

Certification and Signature: I certify the information provided is complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that changes made to my student financial aid eligibility based upon the information provided may affect only the student financial aid received at Indiana Wesleyan University for the 2025-2026 award year.

Student Signature* _____ Date

* Must be an actual “wet” signature. A digital signature or typed font signature is not acceptable. This form may be completed and “wet” signed via a tablet or smartphone with PDF signing capability using a stylus pen. You may need to download an app to access this feature.

IMPORTANT: *Indiana Wesleyan University’s Financial Aid Office will honor unusual circumstances documentation submissions made no later than two weeks prior to when the student ceases attendance for the applicable award year. We cannot guarantee a review of submissions made after this date and no consideration will be given to submissions made after the student ceases to attend.*

Mail, fax, email, or deliver the completed worksheet to the Financial Aid Office using the contact information listed below.

EMAILED FORMS MUST BE SENT FROM THE IWU STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNT