



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
Orphan or Ward of the Court Verification Letter

Form fields for Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, SSN #, Student ID #, Address (Include Apt #), City, State/Zip Code, Home Phone # / Cellphone #

You have reported that you are an orphan or were a "ward of the court" on the FAFSA application. If you are an orphan, check the box below and return this form to the Office of Financial Aid

If you were a "ward of the court" you are required to provide documentation before we are able to continue the financial aid process. You may submit a court order or have your Social Worker verify your "ward of the court status" by completing the reverse side of this form. Read the following definition for an explanation of whether you will be considered independent for financial aid processing.

"Ward of Court" Definition:

You are considered an independent student if you meet the following definition:

- If you were a "ward of the court" at any time since you turned at the age of 13, which means, the court determined that your parent(s) were unable to care for you, and that the State or the Court took legal custody of you. You were removed from your parent's custody for your protection
You may have been placed in Foster Care. If you were in foster care at any time since you turned 13 years old, even if you are no longer in Foster Care today.

You are not an independent student if:

- You were a "ward of the court" and were living with your parents, under the monitoring of the criminal legal system, ordered by the court and/or you were incarcerated.

If the above is true, you are considered a dependent student. You will be required to provide your parents' income on the FAFSA. You have not met the Federal definition of "ward of the court." A correction will be required to determine your financial aid eligibility.

ORPHAN - Check here if you are an orphan (both parents are deceased). You are also considered an orphan if your parents are deceased and you were adopted since you turned 13 years old. You are considered an independent.

Student comments and explanation: _____

Were you ever in the Foster Care Program? [] Yes [] No
Were you in Foster Care at any time since your turned 13 years old? [] Yes [] No
Is your 22nd birthday prior to July 1, 2009? (2009-2010 award year) [] Yes [] No
Have you applied for the \$5,000 Chafee Grant for former Foster Youth? [] Yes [] No
Apply for the Chafee Grant on line at www.csac.ca.gov

Student Signature

Date



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**Section below to be completed by an Official from the
Department of Children and Family Services**

County ILP Contact Number: _____

County Identification Number: _____
Indicate full state # which include County #, Aid Code Type# and 7 digit State #

Start Date of Wardship: _____
Indicate Full Date

Close Date of Wardship: _____
Indicate Full Date

This is to confirm that the student named above was a “ward of the court” at any time since the age of 13, even if they are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. This means that the student is considered a “ward of the court” for purposes of answering the Free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application question regarding dependency status. The student was placed in out-of-home care.

ILP/Probation Coordinator Signature

Date

ILP/Probation Coordinator Name (Please Print)

Telephone Number