

**College Connect Locations**

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**Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships**

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## HOMELESSNESS VERIFICATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

For the purpose of federal financial aid, federal guidelines permit financial aid administrators to determine that a student is a homeless unaccompanied youth, self-supporting or at risk for homelessness. This form is intended to verify the student's status as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A student who reported being homeless or at risk of being homelessness must submit the following documentation.

- A detailed letter of appeal stating your situation.
- Submit three original letters of verification from either a:\*
  - High school or school district homeless liaison;
  - Director of emergency shelter program funded by U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);
  - Director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program;
  - HELP Agency; or
  - Social Services Case Worker
- A completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file.  
\*The verification letters are attached.

I certify that this information is true and complete. I understand that failure to provide the above supporting documentation will affect my status to receive federal financial aid. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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### Verification Letter

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Current mailing address of Student (if none, please list name, phone number, and mailing address of current contact:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am providing this letter of verification as a (list name phone number, and other contact information):  
Please check one:

**A High school or school district homeless liaison**

\_\_\_\_\_

**A Director of a HUD.funded shelter**

\_\_\_\_\_

**A Director of a runaway (RHYA) .funded shelter**

\_\_\_\_\_

**A Director or a Help Agency**

\_\_\_\_\_

**A Social Services Case Worker**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Per the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, I am authorized to verify this student's living situation. Should you have additional questions or need more information about this student, please contact me at the number listed above.**

This letter is to confirm that \_\_\_\_\_ was:  
Name of Student

**Please check one:**

An unaccompanied homeless youth after July 1, 2015. This means that, after July 1, 2015, was living in a homeless situation as defined by Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Act, and was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

An unaccompanied, self supporting youth at risk of homelessness after July 1, 2015. This means that after July 1, 2015, was not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, provides for his/her own living expenses entirely on his/her own, and is at risk of losing his/her housing.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Who are Unaccompanied Homeless Youth?**

Unaccompanied homeless youth are young people who lack safe, stable housing and who are not in the care of a parent or guardian. They may have run away from home or been forced to leave by their parents. Unaccompanied youth live in a variety of temporary situations, including shelters, the homes of friends or relatives, cars, campgrounds, public parks, abandoned buildings, motels, and bus or train stations.

Generally, youth leave home due to severe dysfunction in their families, including circumstances that put their safety and well-being at risk. Unfortunately, physical and sexual abuse in the home is common. Unaccompanied youth do not receive financial support from their parents and do not have access to parental information.

### **Who are School District Liaisons?**

Every school district is required to designate a liaison for students experiencing homelessness. Homeless liaisons have a number of legal responsibilities, including identifying youth who meet the definition of homeless and are unaccompanied. For more information see:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/homeless/legislation.html>

### **What are HUD-funded Shelters?**

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers funding for homeless shelters and services. These funds are distributed to communities through a competitive grant process. For more information see:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/programs/index.cfm>

### **What are Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) -funded Shelters?**

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services administers the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act programs. These programs provide funding for Basic Centers, Transitional Living Programs and Street Outreach Programs that serve runaway and other unaccompanied homeless youth. For more information see:

<http://www/acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/youthdivision/index.htm#sub1>