A student can be considered independent for financial aid purposes by meeting certain criteria. Please review the criteria below, noting any that apply to your situation, and return this form to the Financial Aid Office.

1. Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?  
   **Yes** ___ **No** ___

   Answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship.

   OR

   Answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court’s decision was issued.

   OR

   Answer “No” if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult. Note that the financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that you were an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship.

2. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?  
   **Yes** ___ **No** ___

   Answer “Yes” if you had no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are now adopted.

   OR

   Answer “Yes” if you were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today.

   OR

   Answer “Yes” if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. Note that for federal student aid purposes, a ward of the court is not someone who is incarcerated.

3. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?  
   **Yes** ___ **No** ___

4. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?  
   **Yes** ___ **No** ___
5. At any time on or after July 1, 2021, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? Yes ___ No ___

Answer “Yes” above if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2021 that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or at risk of being homeless.

• “Homeless” means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, motels or cars, or temporarily living with other people because you had nowhere else to go.

• “Unaccompanied” means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.

6. Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? Yes ___ No ___

Answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship.

OR

Answer “Yes” if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court’s decision was issued.

OR

Answer “No” if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.

If you provided all NO answers to the above questions, your FAFSA must include parent information.

If you are unable to secure parent information for the FAFSA, are unsure about how to gather this documentation or feel you have special circumstances that should be considered, contact the Financial Aid Office at lufinaid@luc.edu

Certification Statement:
All of the information provided by me or any other person on this form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to give proof of the information I have provided on this form. Proof may include state income tax returns, court documents, canceled checks, signed statements from third parties, etc. Failure to provide the requested information will result in the loss of financial aid eligibility.

Student Signature* Date

*Typed and digital signatures are not acceptable

DS 2023