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. Please read this form carefully.

1. At any time on or after July 1, 2023, were you unaccompanied and either 1) homeless or 2) self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?     Yes ___ No ____

If “Yes”, did any of the following determine you were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless?

You are required to submit your supporting documentation to the Financial Aid Office for additional review. Documentation must be submitted with the completion of this form. Select all that apply:

___ Director of designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving those experiencing homelessness;

___ Your high school or school district homeless liaison or designee;

___ Director or designee of a project supported by a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant;

___ Financial Aid Administrator (FAA).

***Check here _____ if you are unable to provide documentation from these sources. A Financial Aid Counselor will follow-up with you directly about next steps. ***
2. 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   Answer “No” if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.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.

3. 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.

4. 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.
5. As of today, are you married?  
   Yes ___ No ____

6. Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025?  
   Yes ___ No ____

7. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who received more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2025?  
   Yes ___ No ____

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 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