2027-2028 Case Western Reserve University
Financial Aid Unusual Circumstances Appeal Form

At Case Western Reserve University, we understand that family situations can be complex. Although federal law generally requires dependent students to provide parental information, we can reevaluate students facing unusual circumstances. We will reevaluate your circumstances for both federal (FAFSA) and institutional (CSS Profile) aid, which may have slightly different documentation requirements. While each request is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, submission does not guarantee approval or a change in your financial aid offer.

Examples of situations that may be reviewed:

- Abandonment by your parents
- An abusive family environment that threatens your health or safety
- An inability to locate or contact your parents

Examples of situations that alone are not enough:

- Parents' refusal to contribute to your education or to provide the requested financial aid information
- Parents do not claim you as a dependent for income tax purposes
- Parents live in a different country
- You demonstrate total self-sufficiency

Before you submit

Ensure you have the following:

- You've submitted the FAFSA (003137) and CSS Profile (1105) to CWRU using the correct school code.
- Your CWRU network ID and passphrase for your portal: https://go.case.edu/register/FA-Eval-Unusual.
- Your personal statement - This statement should explain the reasons for your request and will be kept confidential. It can be provided in the following ways:
    - Written – Submit Section A
    - Verbally in person – You can visit us in the Sears Library Building, Suite 240
    - Video meeting – You can schedule an appointment here: https://go.case.edu/portal/finaidconvo
- A statement from a professional who knows your situation (e.g., a teacher, counselor, medical professional, clergy member, or court official)
    - It can be written or, in some cases, via phone.
    - If a professional statement is unavailable, we can accept a signed statement from another individual or family member as a last resort, along with a brief explanation of why a professional statement is unavailable and documents such as paid bills or health insurance showing your separation from your parents.

Timeline

You can submit your appeal now, and documents you upload will be saved, but we can't start your review until all of the required information is received. A review can take 2 to 3 weeks and can be longer for more complex situations, during busier times, or when additional information is required.

If you're not sure whether an appeal can be considered for your circumstances or have other questions, contact us at financialaid@case.edu or 216.368.4530 for assistance.

2027-2028 Case Western Reserve University
Financial Aid Unusual Circumstances Appeal Form

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name	SIS/PeopleSoft Student ID ***(1234567)***

A. Written explanation of your unusual circumstance

Please use the space below to explain your circumstances. You don't need to share graphic details. A summary is enough, and a professional's statement can fill in the rest. Be sure to include information on the following:

- What is your family situation and when did it begin?
- When did you last have contact with your parents?
- Who has supported you since? Where do you live?

Attach a separate page if needed.

By signing below, I certify that all information reported on this form is complete and correct. I understand that providing false or misleading information may result in the cancellation of student aid. Upon request, I will provide additional documentation to verify the information provided.

Note: We only accept handwritten (wet) signatures or digital signatures drawn with a stylus or mouse. Typed names are not accepted.

Student's Signature	Date

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY