TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO

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2021-2022 Verification of Unaccompanied or Homeless Youth

A dependent student who meets the definition of an unaccompanied youth and is homeless or at risk of being homeless may be deemed an independent student (for financial aid purposes only) by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid through the Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Verification process. A student who is verified as being an unaccompanied homeless youth is exempt from providing parental data on his/her FAFSA. The Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY) FAFSA questions refer to determination of homelessness by someone other than a Fin Aid Administrator.

Step 1 – Student's Information

_____ _____
Last Name First Name Student ID (K or J#)

Step 2 – Verification of Unaccompanied or Homeless Youth

Youth indicated on your FAFSA that you were homeless or at risk of homeless. Please verify which of the following statements is correct.

- ☐ I am NOT homeless or at risk for homelessness. I made a mistake on my FAFSA.
  - You will need to provide parental identification, income and household information for the appropriate year so that a correction can be made to your FAFSA; or
  - You may correct your FAFSA and include this information yourself.
- ☐ I am an unaccompanied or homeless youth. A formal determination was made by (select one of the following):
  - High school or school district homeless liaison,
  - Director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or
  - Director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program.
- ☐ I am an unaccompanied or homeless youth, but I do not have a formal determination made by any of the above Professionals.

Step 3 – Supporting Documentation

Supporting Documentation
If you indicate you are an unaccompanied or homeless youth, the Scholarships and Financial Aid Office requests supporting documentation in order to process your FAFSA as an independent student. Acceptable documentation can include:

- Determination by High School: Provide a statement or copies of forms regarding high school's determination of homelessness.
- Residency in Shelter, Youth Center or Transitional Housing: Provide a statement from the shelter or housing office on letterhead indicating your residency at that location.
- No Formal Determination: A signed statement from a third-party professional that verifies the student meets the definition of unaccompanied youth who is homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless. This person should know and understand what the student's current circumstances are.
  - Examples of a third-party professional relationship include:
    - Current/former teacher
    - Counselor (school or wellness)
    - Members of clergy
    - Social worker
    - Work Supervisor
  - Third Party Professional Letters should document the following:
    - The statement must be on letterhead of the business or organization that they represent or an email from that person's official email account through that business or organization.
    - The letter must include person's name, title, phone number, address, and their relationship to the student (whose name should appear as it appears in Texas A&M – San Antonio records). The letter should verify that the student currently meets the definition of an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless

The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships reserves the right to contact third-party professionals who provide supporting documentation

Step 4 – Certification and Signature

I certify that the information provided herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined, sent to prison, or both

_____ _____
Student's Signature Date