**Concord University – Office of Financial Aid**

1000 Vermillion Street, D-120, Athens, WV 24712

304-384-6069 Fax# 304-384-3218

Student’s Name and CU ID:

**VERIFICATION OF LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP OR EMANCIPATED MINOR STATUS**

Your status as an independent student for financial aid purposes was based upon your answer to question 54 or 55 on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). In order to complete the financial aid process and award your aid, the financial aid office must have documentation to prove that you are in legal guardianship or an emancipated minor.

**The following are clarifications regarding questions 54 and 55 on the FAFSA.**

*The definition of legal guardianship does not include your parents, even if they were appointed by a court to be your guardians. You are also not considered a legal guardian of yourself.*

*You would answer* **“Yes”** *if you:*

* *can provide a copy of a court’s decision that, as of today, you are in legal guardianship or are an emancipated minor; or if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state.*

*You would answer* **“No”** *if:*

* *you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect, or if the court decision was not in effect at the time you turned 18. OR*
* *custody was awarded by the courts and court papers say custody (not guardianship).*

**Please check which applies to you and provide required documentation:**

| **YOUR LEGAL STATUS** | **REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION** |
| --- | --- |
| * **Legal Guardianship**
 | Copy of court’s decision documenting you are in legal guardianship from the state of your legal residence. |
| * **Emancipated Minor**
 | Copy of a court’s decision documenting you are an emancipated minor from the state of your legal residence. |

**If you are not able to provide the required documentation, or answered “Yes” on the FAFSA in error, you must correct your FAFSA and include parental information.**

Student Signature and Date: