Financial aid eligibility is calculated based on the information a student provides on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This information includes parent and/or student tax return information, non-taxable income, asset amounts and household information. Since FAFSA has moved to prior-prior year income beginning with the 2017-2018 FASFA, many families have changes in their income or family situations that are not reflected in the information submitted to FAFSA. Students are able to request an adjustment to be made to their FAFSA based on unique extenuating circumstances that affect their parent(s) after the tax year used with FAFSA. MTSU will review the documentation submitted to determine if a student is qualified for a change in their information.

***You may only request a review for the parent(s) reported on FAFSA. For purposes of FAFSA and this form, “father” and “mother” can equal biological, adoptive or step parent(s).

Some of these extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to:

★ Loss of change of employment ★ Death of Spouse
★ Divorce or separation since FASFA was originally filed ★ Unusual out-of-pocket, paid medical expenses
★ Loss or change in amount of child support, taxable Social Security, or other taxable benefits.

Circumstances that are NOT considered to be extenuating include, but are not limited to:

★ Standard living expenses ★ Credit card or other personal debts ★ Car payments
★ Mortgage payments ★ Vacation expenses

Parents, if you feel you have an extenuating circumstance and wish to have the information reviewed, you will need to complete the steps below. Since circumstances may affect different years for a student, please pay attention to the year requested under each circumstance you feel best suites your situation. Requests will not be reviewed until ALL required documentation is received. Submitted documentation will not be returned. Do not submit originals. As your request is being processed, you may be required to submit additional documentation pertaining to your circumstance.

If the student has been selected for verification, the verification process will need to be completed in its entirety, based on the FAFSA tax income year, before submitting a Special Condition Request.

All requests for review are required to submit the following information, in addition to documentation requested based on the extenuating circumstance. Please initial that you have submitted the required information.

_____ 1. Special Condition Request form: Complete all sections of this form.
_____ 2. Personal Statement: Submit a typed, detailed statement explaining the circumstance. Your letter must be signed in your handwriting, not electronically signed. Parent or student may complete this step.
_____ 3. Documentation: Submit all required documentation listed for the extenuating circumstance you feel best represents you and your situation. Required documentation will be noted with ☑ based on circumstance. Additional documentation may be requested once original request has been reviewed.
_____ 4. If required to submit tax information, you must submit parent(s) Tax Return Transcript and W-2s or a signed copy of the 1040 (including schedules), 1040A, or 1040EZ with W-2s for the year requested. You may obtain a tax return transcript by going online to www.irs.gov.

The Special Condition Request review process takes approximately 3 to 4 weeks* from the time ALL required documentation has been submitted. All decisions made by the MTSU Financial Aid & Scholarships Office concerning special conditions are final. The student will be notified of the decision through their MTSU e-mail address.

*If you are submitting your appeal during the months of January, May, August or December, the review timeframe may be extended at the discretion of the MTSU Financial Aid & Scholarships Office.
Section 1: Extenuating Circumstance categories. You must submit all required documentation.

☑ Involuntary reduction of parent income

1a. Did the involuntary reduction in parent employment income occur between November 2015 and December 2016, causing your 2016 tax return information to be significantly lower than 2015? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, you will need to submit your 2016 IRS Tax Transcript or signed copy of 2016 Tax Return.
  → Who is the affected person? ☐ Father ☐ Mother
  → Date of loss of income / unemployment: ____________

1b. Did the involuntary reduction in parent employment income occur between January 2017 and October 2017, making your estimated 2017 income information significantly lower than 2015 or 2016? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, you must wait at least twelve (12) weeks from your date of unemployment to pass prior to the submission of this appeal. You must then describe in your letter if there will be a return to work and when or if there will not be a return to work, you must give an explanation of why and how living expenses will be met. *See note below.
☐ If yes, you must submit a copy of your last paystub showing Year-To-Date income.
  → Who is the affected person? ☐ Father ☐ Mother
  → Date of loss of income / unemployment: ____________
☐ You will be contacted to submit additional documentation once this Special Condition request has been reviewed.

*Note: Due to the complexity of estimating yearly income, if either parent is self-employed, receives commission, tips, has royalties, rental income, farm income, or other variable income, you will be required to submit a copy of your IRS Tax Transcript/Tax Return for the year affected. Request may also be delayed until an IRS Tax Transcript/Return is available if income is undeterminable or until the affected person has obtained employment.

2. Is the involuntary reduction in parent employment income due to reduction in hours at work? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide a letter from employer stating the effective date of reduction, scheduled weekly hours and pay rate of original schedule and reduced schedule

3. Is the involuntary reduction in parent employment due to a layoff or termination? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide an official letter from employer stating the effective date of the layoff or termination and /or anticipated return.

4. Is the affected person eligible for unemployment? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide documentation from the Department of Labor showing benefits received and/or eligible for.
  → Date unemployment benefits began: ____________
  → Date unemployment benefits ended: ____________
☐ If no, please provide documentation from the Department of Labor reflecting your denial, if applicable.

5. Is unemployment due to the affected person quitting their job? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide a copy of resignation letter
☐ In your personal statement, you must explain why this person quit their job and what contingencies have been put into place for the loss of income

6. Did this person receive severance pay? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide a letter from employer stating how the severance pay will be paid and the amount to be received

7. Has this person returned to work either at their previous employer or a new employer? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide a copy of their most recent pay stub that shows year-to-date income and state in your letter when they returned to work, their current rate of pay, current hours scheduled, etc.
☐ If no, please explain in your letter when (and if) they will be returning to work

8. Is the affected party now receiving permanent disability income? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ If yes, provide proof of disability income. Date disability began: ____________
☐ Loss of Child Support or Alimony income
Father and/or Mother are no longer receiving court-ordered child support or alimony

**Loss of support will be reviewed and calculated in regards to the academic year, not calendar year.

☐ Provide proof of amount of court-ordered support and when support ends.
☐ Provide a copy of your 2015 IRS tax transcript/Return, if a transcript/Return has not been previously submitted for verification purposes.

☐ Separation / divorce
If parents filed FAFSA for 2017-2018 as married, and included both incomes, but have since become separated or divorced.

❖ Are you and your spouse legally separated or has your divorce been finalized? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

☐ If yes, provide a copy of either court document
☐ If no, but are living apart, provide proof of at least two (2) separate addresses for each party (utility bills, etc.)
☐ Provide a copy of your 2016 IRS Tax Transcript/Return.
☐ Provide a copy of each party’s W2’s, 1099s, etc.

☐ Non-recurring income received during 2015
Father and/or Mother received a one-time source of income and will not receive income from this source in 2016 or 2017.

❖ Was the non-recurring income received due to an extenuating circumstance beyond your control? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

☐ If yes, provide documentation of extenuating circumstance the non-recurring income was received for and receipts of any payments made (unusually high medical expenses paid; catastrophic event to home, etc.). If this was not a total distribution, you must provide a written statement regarding the remaining funds and any plans to distribute them in 2017.
☐ Provide a copy of your 2016 IRS Tax Transcript/Return.

☐ Out-of-pocket medical expenses paid
Parents have medical expenses that were paid out-of-pocket, not paid by insurance. Expenses must have been paid in either 2015 or 2016, not in both years.

1. Who were the expenses paid for? ☐ Father  ☐ Mother  ☐ Other Dependent (name)____________________________________

☐ Provide proof of out-of-pocket payments (receipts, cancelled checks, etc.) You cannot submit invoices from your providers or Explanation of Benefits from your insurance carrier as proof.

2. Were you eligible to claim a medical expenses deduction on Schedule A (Itemized Deductions) for the tax year the expenses were paid?
☐ If yes, please submit a copy of your Schedule A along with the IRS Tax Transcript/Return for the year affected.

☐ Death of spouse
FAFSA was filed with parents as married and included joint income. Death of spouse occurred after FAFSA was filed.

☐ Provide a copy of your 2016 IRS Tax Transcript/Return
☐ Provide a copy of each party’s W2’s, 1099s, etc.
☐ Copy of the death certificate or obituary notice

❖ Did / Will you receive any death benefits (social security, retirement, military, etc.), life insurance or other court-ordered settlements? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

☐ If yes, provide a copy of benefits or court statement showing amount received and date received.

☐ Parent in college
One or more parent is attending college, at least half-time, at an eligible Title IV institution.

☐ Provide proof of enrollment. This documentation can be a copy of a paid tuition bill or enrollment verification from the school the parent is attending. Enrollment must be between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.
Section 2: Household information

A. Number of Household Members and Number in College

Complete each column below with the name, age and relationship of every person that can be included in the household as defined below. Indicate whether or not the household member will be attending college at least half-time as a degree seeking student between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Parents of a dependent student must include the student, even if they do not live with you. Also include your other children and other people who live with you if you will provide more than half of their support. (Attach additional paper if necessary.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Name of College Attending (if applicable)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Self</td>
<td>Middle TN State Univ.</td>
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<td>No ☐ Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 3: Certification and signatures

Student and parent must certify the following with a signature:

Parent:

- ✓ The information I have provided on this Special Condition request is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- ✓ The Special Condition review process is based upon the estimated income and documentation I have provided for the upcoming year. If the actual income of that year is greater than ten (10) percent of the estimated income, my dependent may be denied future adjustments.
- ✓ I have not knowingly or intentionally provided any fraudulent documentation. I understand if I am found to have knowingly or intentionally given false statements or fraudulent documentation, my dependent’s request will be denied and I may be fined, be sentenced to jail, or both, and my dependent may be required to repay any and all financial aid received.

Student:

- ✓ I understand that I must inform the MT One Stop if any circumstances change for the current year (after my review has been approved).
- ✓ I understand that I am requesting a Special Conditions review based on my parent’s change of income. This review may affect the amount and type of financial aid I am eligible for.

Parent & Student:

- ✓ I understand that there must have a Partners for Education (PIE) form on file with MTSU in order for the MT One Stop or the Financial Aid Office to discuss and/or release any information regarding a financial aid award to a third party (i.e. parent, spouse, guardian, relative, etc.). If a PIE form is not on file, MTSU will only release information to the student.

Student signature & Date (not electronic, must be handwritten)  Parent signature & Date (not electronic, must be handwritten)