**Missouri State University-West Plains**

 **2021-2022 PROOF OF ORPHAN/FOSTER CARE/WARD OF COURT**

Complete in blue or black ink.

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**Please complete this form in blue or black ink and return it with the requested information or documentation.**

Your financial aid status as an Independent student is based solely on your answer to question #52 on the FAFSA. Therefore, the Department of Education requires that you submit legal documentation verifying your situation. Please check the status that best represents your situation and submit the required documentation.

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| --- | --- |
| **STATUS** | **REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION** |
| No Living ParentsYou had no living parent (biological or adoptive) when you were **age 13 or older**, even if you are now adopted | Both Parents' Death Certificates -and-Student's Birth Certificate indicating parent(s)' name OR other official documentation indicating parental relationship |
| Foster CareIn foster care when you were **age 13 or older**, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today | Legal documentation from your state of residency  |
| Dependent / Ward of the CourtA dependent / ward of the court when you were **age 13 or older**, even if you are no longer a dependent / ward of the court as of today | Court Orders |
| ErrorThe question was answered in error. | If this question was answered in error, please go back onto the FAFSA, correct the question and add your parental data. |

Please submit this documentation to our office as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the information on this form, that I have appropriately attached all supporting documents, and certify that all information submitted is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submitting this form does not guarantee that my request will be granted.

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