



THE CITADEL

FINANCIAL AID

2026-27 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Form

On the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you indicated you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless at any time on or after July 1, 2025. To determine your financial aid eligibility, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships needs additional information from you. Please complete this form and return all required documents to our office.

What is the process?

Students who may be considered Unaccompanied Homeless Youth must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and, on the application, select “yes” on the “Student Other Circumstances” question in the “Personal Circumstances” section of the FAFSA. After completing the FAFSA, if requested, students must complete the Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Form and return it to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. Students who cannot obtain documentation should contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for further guidance. Once the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships receives the form and required documentation, it will be reviewed. A final determination of dependency status will be made as soon as practicable but no later than 60 days after the student enrolls. The final determination will be emailed to the student’s Citadel email account. A financial aid offer will be sent to the student after the determination is made if the student meets all other eligibility requirements. Students who receive a homeless determination will be considered independent for each subsequent award year at The Citadel unless the student informs the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships of a change in circumstances or conflicting information regarding dependency status is found.

Please note the following definitions:

Homeless - lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing. You may be homeless if you live in shelters, parks, motels, hotels, public spaces, camping grounds, cars, abandoned buildings, or temporarily living with others because you have nowhere else to go. Also, if you are living in any of these situations and are fleeing an abusive parent, you may be considered homeless even if your parents would otherwise provide a place to live.

Unaccompanied - you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.



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Student Name _____ CWID _____

For the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships to consider you an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth for financial aid purposes, you must complete this form and submit the following:

- 1) Signed personal letter requesting continuation of your unaccompanied homeless youth status. The letter must update your family circumstances and include the following information:**
 - At any time on or after July 1, 2025, were you considered to be homeless?
 - What were your (and parents) living arrangements over the past year?
 - With whom have you resided?
 - Who has provided support to you during the past year?
- 2) A signed letter from a third party on a letterhead attesting to your homeless situation. (Homeless shelter or service provider, counselor, mental health professional, social worker, employer, mentor, the Citadel's staff or faculty, doctor, or clergy)**

Please confirm that you were:

An unaccompanied homeless youth (under 21) after July 1, 2025

This means that after July 1, 2025, you were living in a homeless situation as defined by Section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Act and were not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

An unaccompanied self-supporting youth (under 21) at risk of homelessness after July 1, 2025. This means that after July 1, 2025, you were not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian and provided for your own living expenses entirely on your own and are at risk of losing housing.

I am not homeless or at risk of being homeless, and I do not qualify as an unaccompanied homeless youth (as defined by the Department of Education above) for financial aid purposes. I understand that I must correct my FAFSA and provide parental information on my application.

By signing this document, I certify that all the information reported in it is true and accurate. If I purposely give false or misleading information on this document, it will cause denial or repayment of financial aid, and I may also be fined, sentenced to jail, or both.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

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