

Unaccompanied Youth Determination 2025-2026



This conveys my determination that after July 1, 2024, _____ was:

Check one:

- ☐ an unaccompanied homeless youth*
- ☐ an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth who is at risk of homelessness*

**See back for pertinent definitions*

Student's SSN XXX-XX-_____ **Student's Date of Birth** _____

Student's Mailing Address _____

If the student does not have a stable address, list the name, phone number and mailing address of a friend or relative, or the school/agency

Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (Public Law No: 116-260), I am authorized to document this student's living situation and determine their independent student status as an unaccompanied homeless youth, or an unaccompanied, self-supporting youth who is at risk of homelessness. Address any questions to me at the phone number or email address below.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Title _____

Agency _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Role (check one):

- ☐ The student's high school or school district homeless liaison or designee
- ☐ Director or a designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving individuals who are experiencing homelessness
- ☐ Director or a designee of a program funded a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant
- ☐ Financial aid administrator who previously documented this student's status

RETURN THIS COMPLETED AND SIGNED FORM TO:

Minnesota State University Moorhead • Office of Scholarship and Financial Aid • MSUM Box 90 • 1104 7th Avenue South • Moorhead, MN 56563
Phone: 218.477.2251 • Fax: 218.477.2058 • E-mail: financialaid@mnstate.edu

PERTINENT DEFINITIONS

From the FAFSA Simplification Act (Public Law No: 116-260) and
the 2025-2026 Application and Verification Guide

Homeless

A student is considered homeless if the student lacks fixed, regular, and adequate housing. This is broader than just living “on the street.” It includes temporarily living with other people because the student had nowhere else to go; living in substandard housing (if it doesn’t meet local building codes or the utilities are turned off, it is generally not adequate); living in emergency or transitional shelters, for example, trailers provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after disasters; or living in motels, camping grounds, cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, or any public or private place not designed for humans to live in. It also includes living in the school dormitory if the student would otherwise be homeless. A student living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent may be considered homeless even if the parent would provide support and a place to live.

Unaccompanied

When a student is not living in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Youth

A student who is not yet 24 may qualify for a homeless youth determination.

Self-Supporting

A student who pays for their own living expenses, including a fixed, regular, and adequate housing.

At risk of being homeless

When a student's housing may cease to be fixed, regular, and adequate. For example, a student who is being evicted and has been unable to find fixed, regular, and adequate housing.

Housing Status Definitions

Fixed: Stationary, permanent, and not subject to change

Regular: Used on a predictable, routine, or consistent basis

Adequate: Sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in the home