

Special Conditions Appeal Fall 2008 - Spring 2009
Procedure

Many students feel that they, and their families, may have a special condition that could change their eligibility for financial aid. There are a limited number of situations that qualify as a special condition according to federal financial aid regulations. Please read the information below to determine if you should file for a special condition.

Please remember that the special condition can only be applied for after the school receives the original FAFSA information. **Also, remember that in the majority of cases, eligibility for the special condition adjustment does not increase the student's eligibility for grants or the total amount of aid awarded. The adjustment usually only changes non-need based loans to need based loans, or may result in no change to aid eligibility. The loss of income or benefit must occur during the 2008 year.**

Be aware that if you receive a North Carolina Grant, it may be reduced or lost because it is based on your original EFC.

The only conditions that may merit the use of a Special Conditions Appeal:

Dependent Student

1. Parent - loss of employment income (can't use reduced income, change in jobs, or loss of self employment income).
2. Loss of untaxed benefit (social security, child support)
3. Loss of income due to death or divorce of parent
4. Extraordinary medical expenses **paid** in the household where student resides.
5. Tuition for a special needs child.

Independent Student

1. Student or spouse – loss of employment income (can't use reduced income, change in jobs, or loss of self employment income).
2. Loss of untaxed benefit (social security, child support)
3. Loss of income due to divorce or death of spouse
4. Extraordinary medical expenses **paid** in the household
5. Tuition for a special needs child

These are the only Special Conditions that we may consider. If you meet one of these conditions, you may complete a Special Condition's Appeal after July 1, 2008. They will not be reviewed before September 2008. Additional documentation may be requested at that time. The Special Conditions Appeals will be posted on the Financial Aid Office website after July 1, 2008 under student forms at: www.wcu.edu/finaid/

Special Condition Appeals submitted after November 1st will require a signed 2008 federal tax form.

