



2025-2026
Special Circumstance Request

Independent Student

The MGCCC Financial Aid Office recognizes that some students may experience special circumstances that cause a substantial reduction in their income which may impact their ability to contribute to college costs. Students may use this form to report changes that have occurred since filing your 2023 tax returns. The submission of this form means that MGCCC will evaluate your circumstances, but it does not guarantee an increase in your financial aid award. You may complete this form only one time per academic year. Changes to your financial aid award will be communicated through your MGCCC e-mail account and Web Services.

Complete this form **ONLY** if your family's income is **SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER** in 2024 than it was in 2023.

Student's Name _____ **GCID (M#)** _____

Step One – Identify and Document Special Circumstance

Instructions:

Please check the box(es) that best applies to your situation and attach the requested documentation. In order for your request to be considered, you must support your claim with the required documentation.

☐ **Death of Spouse**

- Submit a detailed letter outlining your situation and its impact on your household's 2024 income.
- Submit a copy of the death certificate or equivalent.
- Submit a copy of your and your spouse's 2024 Federal Tax Return Transcripts (if submitting request after December 2024).

☐ **Marital Separation, Pending Divorce, or Divorce**

- For your request to be considered, the student and (former) spouse must live in separate residences.
- Submit a detailed letter outlining your situation and its impact on your household's 2024 income.
- Submit documentation of separation (attorney's letter, counselor's letter, or documentation of separate residences) or divorce decree.
- Attach documentation to support all income listed (2024 W2s, last pay stub, unemployment compensation, etc.).
- Submit a copy of your and your spouse's 2024 Federal Tax Return Transcripts (if submitting request after December 2024).

☐ **Separation from Work Due to Layoff or Termination**

- For your request to be considered, the length of unemployment must be substantial.
- Submit a detailed letter outlining your situation and its impact on your household's 2024 income.
- Submit documentation of layoff or termination from former employer or the unemployment office. Letter from former employers must be on company letterhead and should list the date of layoff or termination.
- Attach documentation to support all income listed (last pay stub, unemployment compensation, severance pay, etc.).
- Submit a copy of your and your spouse's 2024 Federal Tax Return Transcripts (if submitting request after December 2024).

☐ **Change in Job Status (Reduction of Work Hours, Retirement, Permanent Disability, etc.)**

- Submit a detailed letter outlining your situation and its impact on your household's 2024 income.

- Submit documentation of job change status from your employer. The letter from your employer must be on company letterhead and should list the date your reduction of hours occurred.
- Attach documentation to support all income listed (last pay stub, unemployment compensation, severance pay, etc.).
- Submit a copy of your and your spouse's 2024 Federal Tax Return Transcripts (if submitting request after December 2024).

☐ Reduction or Loss of Benefits or Non-Recurring Income

- For your request to be considered, these benefits must have been received for 2023 but have been reduced or lost for 2024.
- Submit a detailed letter outlining your situation and its impact on your household's 2024 income. The letter should outline the reduction or termination of benefits and indicate the date the reduction or termination occurred. If the benefit was one-time or non-recurring, please include verification of how the funds were spent or invested.
- Submit documentation of loss of benefits.
- Submit a copy of your and your spouse's 2024 Federal Tax Return Transcripts (if submitting request after December 2024).

Step 2 - Verification

If you have not done so, submit a copy of the 2025-2026 Independent Verification Worksheet and a copy of your and your spouse's 2023 Tax Return Transcripts or *signed* 2023 tax return. (attached)

Step 3 – Estimate 2024 Income**Instructions:**

Please fill out the chart below. Enter the estimated income for yourself and your spouse from the sources listed below. If an income item does not apply to you, enter "n/a" in the appropriate space. If the change in income is not documented, it will not be taken into consideration for your Income Reduction Request.

Type of Income	Student's 2024 Amount	Spouse's 2024 Amount
Money Earned from Work	\$	\$
Retirement Benefits	\$	\$
Disability Benefits	\$	\$
Unemployment Benefits	\$	\$
Social Security Benefits	\$	\$
Alimony	\$	\$
Child Support Received	\$	\$
Business/Farm/Rental Income	\$	\$
Other Untaxed Income (Please list)	\$	\$

I certify that all of the information on this request and included documentation is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I purposely give false or misleading information as part of this request that I may be subject to a \$20,000 fine, a prison sentence, or both.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

For Office Use Only

☐ APPROVE

☐ DENY

Comments:

Directors Signature _____

Date _____

Your application was selected for review in a process called “verification.” In this process, MGCCC will be comparing information from your application with the information on this worksheet and other required documents. The law requires that the College ask you for this information before awarding Federal Student Aid. If there are differences between your application information and your financial documents, corrections may need to be submitted to the Department of Education. Please answer carefully and completely.

Complete this verification form and submit it to your financial aid administrator as soon as possible so that your financial aid will not be delayed. Your financial aid administrator will help you if you have questions.

What you should do

1. Complete and sign the worksheet.
2. Submit the completed worksheet, tax forms, and any other documents your school requests to your financial aid administrator.

3. Section A: Student Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle/Maiden	GCID (M#)
Address (include Apt # if applicable)			Date of Birth: mm/dd/yy ()
City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number (Include Area Code)

Section B: Family Information

List the people in *your household* including:

- Yourself, and your spouse if you are married, and
- Your children, if you provided more than half of their support from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (even if they do not live with you) and
- Other people if they now live with you, you provide more than half of their support and provided more than half of their support from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Write the names of all household members in the space(s) below. For those household members that will be attending college at least half-time between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, and will be enrolled in a degree, diploma or certificate program. If you need more space, attach a separate page.

Full Name	Age	Relationship	College
		Self	Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Section C: Student's (and Spouse's if married) Tax and Income Information

1. Check only ONE box below:

- ☐ Check here if you have made a correction to your FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov.

- ☐ Check here if you are attaching a copy of your and your spouse's 2023 IRS tax transcript. **Tax transcripts must be requested directly from the IRS by visiting www.irs.gov and clicking on "Get a tax transcript" or by calling 1.800.908.9946.**
- ☐ Check here if you and your spouse will not file and are not required to file a 2023 U.S. Income Tax Return and are attaching a copy of each of your 2023 W-2 forms (if received). **YOU MUST PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FROM THE IRS THAT INDICATES A 2023 IRS INCOME TAX RETURN WAS NOT FILED.** Please see the Verification of Non-Filing Letter at mgccc.edu Financial Aid Forms page. Please answer question 2.

2. If you and your spouse did not file and are not required to file a 2023 Federal Income Tax Return, list below your employer(s), any other sources of income (such as SSI; Social Security Disability; Child Support Received; TANF; Veterans Non-Education Benefits; Family/Friends; Military or Clergy Housing/Food/Living; etc.), and income amounts received in 2023 (use W-2 forms if available):

Student's Income:

Employer's Name/Source of Income	2023 Amount Earned/Received	2023 W-2 Attached?
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No

Spouse's Income (if married):

Employer's Name/Source of Income	2023 Amount Earned/Received	2023 W-2 Attached?
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No
	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No

WARNING:

IF YOU PURPOSELY GIVE FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION ON THIS WORKSHEET, YOU MAY BE FINED, PROSECUTED FOR FRAUD, SENTENCED TO JAIL, AND/OR FACE OTHER CHARGES, AND WILL HAVE TO REPAY ANY FINANCIAL AID FUNDS YOU RECEIVED.

Student Signature

Date

Spouse Signature (if applicable)

Date