

## **Professional Judgment**

Academy of Massage and Bodywork will consider making a Professional Judgment on a case-by-case basis for either Special Circumstances and/or Unusual Circumstances.

### **Examples of Special Circumstances include:**

- Change in employment status, income, or assets.
- Change in housing status (e.g., homelessness)
- Tuition expenses at an elementary or secondary school
- Medical, dental, or nursing home expenses not covered by insurance.
- Child or dependent care expenses
- Severe disability of the student or other member of the student's household

The above list is not an exhaustive list.

- Other changes or adjustments that impact on the student's costs or ability to pay for college.
- Or appropriate, reasonable adjustments to reflect a student's situation more accurately.

Upon justification and proper documentation, the Financial Aid Administrator may adjust data elements in the Cost of Attendance or in the EFC calculation.

### **Examples of Unusual Circumstances include:**

- Human trafficking, as described in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C 7101 et seq.).
- Legally granted refugee or asylum status.
- Parental abandonment or estrangement; or
- Student or parental incarceration.

In such cases an override might be warranted based upon the student's individual circumstances. These conditions would also not disqualify a student from being a homeless unaccompanied youth or self-supporting and at risk of homelessness.

However, none of the conditions listed below, singly or in combination, qualify as unusual circumstances meriting a dependency override.

### **Unusual Circumstances do not include:**

- Parents refuse to contribute to the student's education.
- Parents will not provide information for the FAFSA or verification.
- Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes.
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency.

For more information, contact the Financial Administrator, Linda DiPietro via email:  
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