# 2026-2027 Appeal for Special Circumstance

**Office of Financial Aid, 150 Rust Ave, McCoy Administration Building,**
**Holly Springs, MS 38635| Email: financialaid@rustcollege.edu**

Student Full Name: _____

Student Rust ID#: _____ Phone#: _____

Rust Email: _____

***Rust College recognizes that standard financial aid forms do not always capture the full financial profile of our students and their families due to Special Circumstance. Through an Appeal process, the Office of Financial Aid may be able to make adjustments to your 2026-2027 FAFSA which could result in a recalculation of aid eligibility at Rust College. All appeal cases are subject to a review and are not guaranteed to result in additional funding.***

**All decisions are final.**

All documentation required must be attached. Incomplete information and telephone requests will not be accepted. Please **NOTE** the student/and or parent(s) have the primary responsibility for any financial obligation that may exist prior to the completion of the review process. Also, the Financial Aid staff may ask for additional documentation, at any time during the review process.

**Examples of situations that may be considered Special Circumstances include:**

- One-time income removal (inheritance, IRA distribution, retroactive lump-sum payment
- Divorce/legal separation of parents/ Independent student and spouse
- Death of parent or Independent student's spouse
- Bankruptcy or Consumer Debt
- Reduced or loss of untaxed income benefits

**Response and Turnaround Time:**
An appeal for Special Circumstances is often sent to a committee to process. Please allow at least 3 weeks for a response. During peak processing times (January through August), it may take 4-6 weeks for an appeal to be reviewed by the committee. ***The student and parent will be informed of the decision by e-mail; we will use the e-mail address provided at the top of this form.***

**Rust College will accept the following cases. Please check the case that applies to your situation and include a detailed letter with your request.**

☐ **Loss /Reduction in Employment (Unemployment must be for at least eight weeks before an Appeal will be considered.)**

- A letter from the former employer on company letterhead detailing the employee's termination/separation date
- Notice of severance/pay-out
- Notice of unemployment benefits
- A copy of the current tax forms and W-2's
- A copy of the employee's year-to-date pay stub

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☐ **Loss /Reduction of Income or One time disbursement of 401K or Investment Funds**

- A copy of a letter from the appropriate state or federal agency that specifies the termination date and the amount of benefits received, such as Social Security benefits, Unemployment, Child Support, etc.
- A benefits schedule/documentation
- Statement indicating nature of the one time earnings and proof as to what the funds were used for

☐ **Divorce or Separation**

- A copy of the divorce decree or separation agreement (preferably from a lawyer).
- Documentation indicating that the divorce or separated parties have been living separately and have incurred their own living expenses (i.e., utility bills, lease, etc.).
- A copy of the current tax forms and W-2 Forms

☐ **Death of Parent or Spouse**

- A copy of the death certificate or obituary
- A copy of the current tax forms and W-2 Forms
- Letter from student or surviving spouse

**Statement of Understanding:**

☐ I/we certify that all of the information provided, and the supporting documentation submitted is true and accurate.

☐ I/we understand that the request will not be considered until all adequate and complete documentation is submitted. In addition, the Office of Financial Aid may require additional documentation in order to verify and substantiate the situation.

☐ I/we understand that the Office of Financial Aid will review the request and let me/us know of the outcome in approximately 3 weeks.

☐ I/we understand that completion of this form does not guarantee additional aid, and Billing Office/Student Accounts payment deadlines and procedures need to be adhered to during the review process in order to avoid potential late fees.

***For many forms requested by the Financial Aid Office, you will need to provide "wet" signatures. Names typed in script fonts are not acceptable.***

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

**For office use only:**

☐ **Approved** ☐ **Denied Reason:** _____

2024 AGI Parent: _____ 2024 Taxes Paid _____ 2024 Untaxed Income _____

2024 AGI ISIR _____ 2024 Taxes Paid _____ 2024 Untaxed Income _____

Trans# _____ Old SAI _____ New SAI _____

FAA Signature/Date: _____

**How to Submit:**

Mail: Rust College
Office of Financial Aid
150 Rust Ave,
McCoy Administration Building
Holly Springs, MS 38635

Email: financialaid@rustcollege.edu