



2025-2026 Special Circumstance: Appeal for Change in Student Marital Status

Students whose marital status changes (married or divorced) after submitting their FAFSA may submit this appeal. Completion of this appeal does not guarantee approval of your request. (This form is only for students. Parents of dependent students whose marital status changes after filing FAFSA should contact the financial aid office.) Please complete the form below:

MLC Student's Name

Have you already completed your 2025-26 FAFSA? (yes or no)

- No, I have not yet completed a FAFSA for 2025-26.**

STOP: If you are considering getting married (or changing marital status) and have not yet completed your 2025-2026 FAFSA, be sure to talk with a financial aid counselor **BEFORE** submitting your FAFSA.

Students do not always receive a better financial aid package because they are married. A financial aid representative can advise you on whether it is best to complete the FAFSA before getting married (and receive aid as a single student) or wait to submit the FAFSA until after you are married (and receive financial aid as a married independent student). To determine which option is best for you, please visit ohe.state.mn.us and select Paying for College and "Financial Aid Estimator." You will need to complete two estimates, one as a single student (include parents' data) and one as a married independent student (include spouse's data).

Note: Some changes in marital status may be allowed after your FAFSA has been completed (see below), but these are reviewed on a case-by-case basis based on a variety of factors, including a determination of which status best reflects your ability to pay. If you are planning to get married (or expect any change in marital status), be sure to talk with the financial aid office prior to completing your FAFSA to ensure that you receive the best financial aid package.

- Yes, I have already completed my 2025-26 FAFSA.**

If you have already completed your FAFSA and your marital status has since changed, a financial aid representative **MAY** be able to update your dependency status on your FAFSA. Please review the following question (next page):



How has your marital status changed? (please check one)

○ **From Single to Married**

If you select this option, please complete the following steps:

1. Log onto **STUDENTAID.gov** and correct your marital status to show that you are “Married”
(This will cause a reject code to appear on your FAFSA that requires a financial aid counselor to override.)
2. Submit the following documents to the Martin Luther College financial aid office:
 - a. A copy of your marriage license
 - b. A signed copy of your 2023 Federal Tax Return*
 - c. A signed copy of your spouse’s 2023 Federal Tax Return*
 - d. A copy of your 2023 W-2’s
 - e. A copy of your spouse’s 2023 W-2’s
 - f. Independent Verification Worksheet (obtained from MLC Financial Aid office)
 - g. This completed appeal form

* If you did not file a 2023 federal tax return, submit all 2023 W-2’s for you and your spouse as well as a 2023 non-filing letter from the IRS for you and your spouse

Please explain your circumstances, with clarification as to why the financial aid office should approve this change in marital status:

Certification

I affirm that all data elements contained on this form and any accompanying documentation are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. Upon request I will provide additional documentation to substantiate the information provided.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

APPEALS FOR CHANGE IN MARITAL STATUS WILL BE ACCEPTED UP TO THE LAST DATE OF CLASS ATTENDANCE FOR AN ACADEMIC YEAR.

Please allow a minimum of 2-3 weeks for processing.