Financial Aid

Parent Information Requirement and Waiver Request

Policy Summary

The availability of Boston University scholarship funding is limited. Eligibility for BU financial aid is based on student and parent resources. Applicants who have living parents are required, by University policy, to submit parental income and asset information, even if parental information on the FAFSA is not required.

The primary responsibility for paying educational expenses rests with the student and his/her parents. Assisting qualified students meet the cost of attendance is a core Boston University commitment. Students are expected to utilize available family resources, student employment opportunities and to accept student loans offered at a reasonable level.

Application Requirements

Applicants for BU need-based scholarships are required to submit the following:

- CSS PROFILE
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Parent and Student Income Verification documentation

Parent Information Waiver Request

If you have a documentable extenuating circumstance which makes it impossible to provide parental information on your financial aid application, you may petition for a waiver of this requirement using the Waiver Request form below.

Please note that NONE of the conditions listed below, singularly or in combination, constitute sufficient justification to approve a waiver request:

- Parents refuse to contribute to the student’s education
- Parents are unwilling to provide information
- Parents do not claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes
- Student demonstrates total self-sufficiency

The completed Waiver Request form and accompanying documentation should be submitted to:

Boston University Financial Assistance
881 Commonwealth Avenue, 5th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
Fax: 617-358-2792
BU Parent Information Waiver Request

To petition for a waiver of the requirement that parent information be provided on the PROFILE and FAFSA.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name ________________________________  BU I.D. # ____________________________

Permanent Address ________________________________________________________________

street                                                                    city

_____________________________________  ________________________

state                                                                    zip

Email _____________________________________  Telephone __________________________

Applying for Financial aid for: Fall ______   Spring ______   Summer ______

WAIVER REQUEST

Please provide below a thorough explanation of exactly why it is impossible to provide parental information. Include a description of the history and current status of your relationship with each parent, and specify the frequency of your contact with each parent. Attach additional sheet(s) of paper if necessary.

Attach supporting documentation from at least two sources, such as legal/court documents or a letter from an attorney, clergy, mental health professional, teacher, guidance counselor, or other non-family member who is familiar with your circumstances and in a position to confirm your explanation of the situation. Be sure that the person writing on your behalf includes his/her name, address, phone number, and relationship to you (the student).

Waiver requests submitted without supporting documentation and/or third party corroboration will be reviewed, but tend to be less compelling and thus are less likely to be approved. Approval of a waiver request does NOT guarantee that BU need-based scholarship aid will be offered, even if financial eligibility is established.

I request an exemption from the Boston University policy that requires parental information for consideration for BU funds. An explanation of the circumstances is provided below. Relevant documentation is attached.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature __________________________________________________________________ Date __________________

Please note: A decision on your application for financial aid cannot be made until we receive either the required parents’ information or additional information and documentation sufficient to form an adequate basis to waive the requirement.