CAPE COD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DEPENDENCY OVERRIDES

1. Generally, the Financial Aid Director will review dependency override requests and will make the decision to approve, deny, or request more information. The Assistant Director may also approve overrides at the Director’s request.

2. Appeals must be in writing. The FAO provides students with an appeal form that outlines the documentation recommended for the override.

3. Overrides are approved for students with exceptional family circumstances. For example: a student whose father is incarcerated and who has no idea where his mother is, or a student who lives with her grandparents because her biological parents abandoned her at 4 years old, or a student who bounces between his relatives because his parents are alcoholics that make it intolerable to live at home.

4. In some cases, the student’s situation may not be as severe as those listed above, but based on the Director’s assessment, professional judgment does apply. However, in all cases the circumstances must be well documented. Often the student will provide documentation from a third-party source, outside the family, such as a teacher, therapist, employer, etc.

5. The Director will not approve appeals that are based simply on the student living away from home or being self-supporting or the parents refuse to complete the FAFSA or help with school expenses.

6. If an override is approved, the FAO will put the student’s original FAFSA through EDE with the appropriate override code. If the student has already submitted a FAFSA, the FAO will submit a correction on the ISIR.

7. Once the Director approves the appeal, she assumes that the student’s circumstances will continue to be similar in future academic years. In 2003-04, the office will begin to collect a statement from these students just to confirm their status.