CHAPTER 28-HIGHER EDUCATION RESOURCES AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE
DEFINITION OF INDEPENDENT STUDENT:

(d) Independent student

(1) Definition

The term "independent", when used with respect to a student, means any individual who-

(A) is 24 years of age or older by December 31 of the award year;

(B) is an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, or was an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court at any time when the individual was 13 years of age or older;

(C) is, or was immediately prior to attaining the age of majority, an emancipated minor or in legal guardianships determined by a court of competent jurisdiction in the individual's State of legal residence;

(D) is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States (as defined in subsection (c)(1)) or is currently serving on active duty in the Armed Forces for other than training purposes;

(E) is a graduate or professional student;

(F) is a married individual;

(G) has legal dependents other than a spouse;

(H) has been verified during the school year in which the application is submitted as either an unaccompanied youth who is a homeless child or youth (as such terms are defined in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. 11434a]), or as unaccompanied, at risk of homelessness, and self-supporting,by-

> (i) a local educational agency homeless liaison, designated pursuant to section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)];

> (ii) the director of a program funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act [34 U.S.C. 11201 et seq.] ora designee of the director;

> (iii) the director of a program funded under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.] (relating to emergency shelter grants) or a designee of the director; or

> (iv) a financial aid administrator; or

(I) is a student for whom a financial aid administrator makes a documented determination of independence by reason of other unusual circumstances.