Financial Aid

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT APPEAL FORM
2026 – 2027

Student Name: _____ Student ID# _____

Street Address: _____ Email: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

General Professional Judgment Appeal Information

The office of Financial Aid can use their professional judgment on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) because of unusual circumstances. You will have to provide enough documentation to support any adjustments. The Office of Financial Aid's decision as to whether or not to make changes is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education. Listed below are examples of circumstances for which a professional judgment might be considered at Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics. Other circumstances may be considered if warranted. Documentation must be attached in order for the request to be reviewed.

Reason for Appeal *[Please check the reason(s) that apply to your situation.]*

Please Check	Reason for Review	Required Supporting Documentation

☐	Significant reduction of income or loss of wages for parent/student/spouse	• Explanation of Special Circumstance
		• Submit documentation of reduced or loss of wages such as:
		  ○ 2025 Federal tax return and 2025 W-2s
		  ○ Separation of employment letter
		  ○ Last paycheck stub indicating year-to-date earnings
		  ○ Verification of unemployment income or unemployment denial

☐	Death of parent or spouse after student filed the 2026-2027 FAFSA	• Explanation of Special Circumstance • Copy of death certificate
☐	Divorce (or pending divorce) of parents or spouse after student filed the 2026-2027 FAFSA	• Explanation of Special Circumstance • Copy of official divorce decree or attorney statement of pending divorce • Statement from parent/student indicating any additional income that the parent/student will receive as a result of the divorce such as child support, alimony, ex-spouse's making house payment, etc.
☐	Untaxed income (Child support, alimony, unemployment, etc.) that was reported on 2026-2027 FAFSA has ceased	• Explanation of Special Circumstance • Documentation of the amount and when the untaxed income was ceased
☐	Unusual Medical/Dental Expenses for parent/student/spouse	• Explanation of Special Circumstance • Documentation of outstanding or paid medical bills not reimbursed or paid by insurance
☐	Other (Not listed above)	• Explanation of Special Circumstance • Documentation supporting your special circumstance

Additional documentation that is not listed above may be requested in order to proceed with your request.

(OVER)

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Explanation of Special Circumstances

(Attach separate sheet or additional sheets, if needed)

Please help us better understand the special circumstance occurring by providing a detailed explanation below:

THIS APPEAL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED. Documentation should verify (prove) what you state as your reasons for the appeal. **Failure to provide adequate documentation will result in your appeal being denied.**

Review Time

The Financial Aid Appeal Committee will attempt to review your appeal as quickly as possible. You will receive a response after your completed appeal has been reviewed. Submission of the form with your signature verifies that you have read the procedures above and that all your statements are true and accurate.

Student/Parent Certification

By signing below:

1. I certify that I have read the professional judgment information sheet.
2. I also certify that all information and documentation given are accurate and true.
3. I understand that misrepresentation of information may result in repayment of federal and state financial aid received.

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dependent Students Only

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____