According to the 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act, a young person can fill out the FAFSA as an independent student if they fit into one of these categories:

1. Student who is an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, at any time when the student was 13 years of age or older

2. Student is an emancipated minor or is in legal guardianship as determined by the court in their state of legal residence

3. Applicant is verified as an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of homelessness and self-supporting