

Title: Section 479A of HEA [Professional Judgement]

Section 479A of the HEA allows an institution's FAA the authority to use professional judgment to adjust, on a case-by-case basis, the cost of attendance or the values of the items used in calculating the EFC/SAI to reflect a student's special circumstances. In making case-by-case determinations, a student is required to submit their petition with documentation supporting and substantiating the reasons for the petition. The school may perform Professional Judgments on an individual basis and is at the discretion of the Financial Aid Director. All decisions are final, and are not appealable. Approvals are only valid for the FAFSA Award Year that is reflected on the form. To request a professional judgment petition form, please reach out to your Student Account Services who will connect you with the Director of Financial Aid.