

Completing a Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Calculation Appeal is the process of allowing students/families to address income changes in the current calendar year, versus the previous year. The income change may result in a revision to the Student Aid Index (SAI), and any change in the SAI will help our office determine whether a student becomes eligible for additional financial aid. Students/families can also get an estimate of these changes by using the [Financial Aid Estimator \(ucsd.edu\)](https://ucsd.edu/financial-aid-estimator) which provides an estimate of the net price for an academic year at UC San Diego.

Does your FAFSA/ DREAM ACT SUBMISSION SUMMARY reflect a Student Aid Index (SAI) of -\$1500 to 0?

If so, you have already been offered the maximum amount of Financial Aid available at UC San Diego. Submitting a Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Calculation Appeal at this time cannot further decrease your SAI, and therefore will not make a student eligible for additional financial aid. If a student's expenses exceed the estimated cost of attendance, then students can consider submitting a Special Circumstance - Cost of Attendance Appeal for additional federal loan options.

CHANGES WARRANTING A REVIEW ARE LIMITED TO THE SPECIFIC SITUATIONS BELOW:

- Layoff/Unemployment
- Disability
- Retirement
- Death of parent on FAFSA or DREAM application
- Divorce/Separation
- Child or spousal support
- Out of pocket medical costs not covered by insurance from between January and December 2025 for members included in the number of people in the household on the FAFSA or DREAM application. Expenses must not exceed medical expenses as allowed by financial aid regulations.

You will be notified by Financial Aid and Scholarships when your appeal has been processed, or if any additional information is required.

Please note: if selected for verification, your appeal will not be reviewed until after verification has been completed.

The Document Submission Tool allows you to electronically submit documents directly to the UC San Diego Financial Aid and Scholarships Office.

Please review the following before continuing to the Submission Tool:

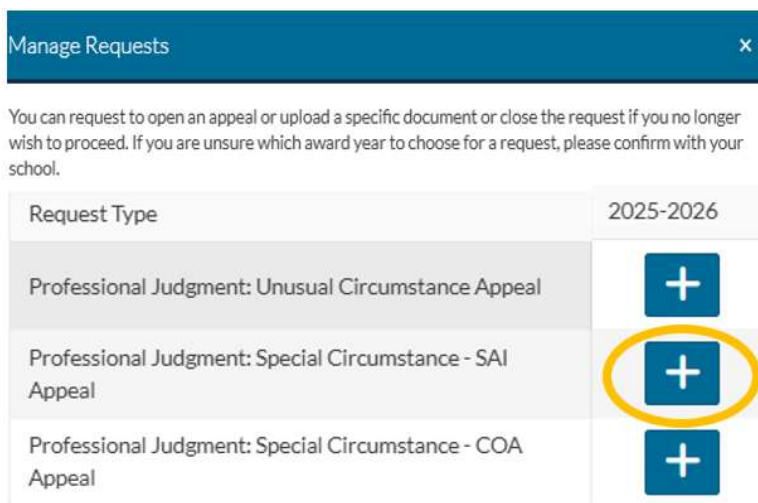
If you have not already done so you will need to set up access through the Document Submission Tool before requesting an appeal. Instructions and a link to the tool are available on your MyTritonLink, Financial Aid page. Select the aid year 2025-26. Once you have created a Document Submission Tool account, you can continue to access it through the MyTritonLink Financial Aid tool in the "Important Info" section.

Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Appeal Instructions

1. Once you are logged on, you may request an appeal by selecting the “Manage Requests” button.



2. Then select the “+” for “Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Calculation Appeal” and the applicable school year.



3. When requesting the Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Calculation Appeal, you will need to select at least one of the reasons for the request and an explanation. This is not your appeal statement, so please keep your explanation brief.

Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Appeal Instructions

Add Request

Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance - SAI Appeal -- 2025-2026

Please explain your reason for this request.

Father lost job in August 2025.

Characters left: 223/255

SubmitGo Back

- Click “Fill Out” and complete the appeal. Documentation requirements are noted in the appeal instructions. Please upload required supporting documents for your appeal (i.e. taxes, bills, additional statements, etc.)

2025 - 2026 Professional Judgment: Special Circumstance - SAI Appeal

Below is the list of items the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office needs you to complete for the professional judgment appeal process. Click on any section to view the detailed list of requirements.

Dependent SAI Appeal - UC San Diego

For our office to complete the review of your appeal, please submit all requested documentation.

 Father lost job in August 2025.

Appeal Status: Open

 2025-2026 Dependent SAI Appeal 

 Fill Out

Professional Judgement: Special Circumstance – SAI Appeal Instructions

5. Dependent student appeals require a parent signature. Press “Request” to send your parent an email request for their signature.

Download	Date Filled Out
2025-2026 Dependent SAI Appeal.pdf	08/01/2025

☐ You have E-Signed this form. A parent E-Signature is also required. Click the “Request” button to the right to request the E-Signature. This form will no longer be editable while awaiting the parent E-Signature. Otherwise, return to the form by clicking the “Fill Out” button to the right and select “Opt out of E-Sign” in the Review & Sign section to download the form, complete all signatures, and upload the signed form.

☐ Upload Parent Proof of Employment Separation ?

☐ Upload Proof of current income ?

[Request](#)


[↑ Upload](#)

[↑ Upload](#)

6. Upload any required supporting documentation by pressing “Upload” and then “Add Page(s)” for more than one document. If you forgot what documents are required for the appeal reason, you can click the pdf form link to review required documentation under the reason you checked.

☒ Upload Parent Proof of Employment Separation ?

[+ Add Page\(s\)](#)

Filename	Date Uploaded
 Employment Separation Letter.pdf	08/01/2025

7. Click “Submit” and “Finish” once all tasks have been completed.

[Submit](#)

[Dependent Family Contribution Appeal - UC San Diego](#) ✓

[Finish](#)

You can expect an email response with the results of your appeal once it has been reviewed. Please understand, appeal processing is expected to begin late Fall. Please plan to utilize options in your initial aid offers to pay your bill by the billing due date.