



2025-2026

Petition for Special Circumstance

3028 Lindbergh Ave. Bellingham, WA 98225 • (360)752-8351 • fax 360)752-7151 • FinAid@btc.edu

You may request a change to your financial aid eligibility based on a reduction in income or other circumstances that occurred after the 2023 tax year. In general, approval is reserved for students and their families who have experienced involuntary reductions of income. Income for the time frames listed in Part 4 may be considered. If using projected income, wait to submit this form until your income is stable enough to make a reliable projection. Attach all required documentation to this form. **Petitions submitted without documentation will not be processed.** Upon approval of your request, you will be notified by email and your FASFA will be updated on your behalf. One Petition for Special Circumstance will be considered per academic year. Incomplete petitions may be rejected or require additional processing time.

Part 1: Student Information

Last Name

First Name

cteLink ID

Previous Last Name (s)

Email Required (Email is the default communication method)

Part 2: Whose circumstances have changed?

I am reporting a change of income or other circumstances for the person indicated below:

- Myself (student)
- Spouse
- Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent)
- Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent)

Part 3: Which special circumstance applies to the person indicated above?

- Unemployment, reduced employment, or job change
- Disability (Date of disability: _____)
- Social Security benefits ended or were reduced
- Unemployment benefits ended or were reduced
- Received one-time only income (i.e.: IRA or pension)
- Child Support ended or was reduced
- Alimony ended or was reduced
- Separation or divorce
- Retirement
- Death of a spouse / Death of parent(s)
- Other (_____)

Part 4: Time frame for evaluating income

I am requesting that my financial aid be based on my income for the 12-month period of time selected below. Select only one option:

- Calendar Year 2025: (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025)
- Calendar Year 2026: (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2026) accepted for students beginning enrollment in Winter or Spring quarters.
- Academic Year: (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

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Part 5: Required documentation

1. Letter of explanation

In your words, explain in detail the reason(s) for the reduction in income. Provide specifics including names, dates and dollar amounts whenever possible.

2. Supporting documentation

Submit documentation to verify the special circumstances. Examples include, but are not limited to: most recent pay stubs, unemployment benefit statement, termination or layoff notice, letter from employer citing reduction of work hours, legal separation agreement, divorce decree, physician’s disability statement, death certificate.

Part 6: Income information for the person specified in Part 2

Indicate the annual **gross** amounts received for the timeframe specified in Part 4. Do not leave any space blank.

Type of income or benefit	Annual Amount
Income earned from work (gross wages, tips, etc.) <i>Include actual income + estimated income, if applicable</i>	\$
Unemployment benefits	\$
Other Taxable Income <i>Interest, dividends, alimony, capital gains, rental income, taxable Social Security, etc.</i>	\$
Child Support Received	\$
Other Non-Taxable Income <i>Workers’ compensation, disability, pensions, cash received, or money paid on your behalf, etc.</i>	\$
Severance Pay	\$

Signature Certification Required

By submitting this form, I agree that the information provided is complete and correct. I understand that by purposefully providing false or misleading information in connection with my application for federal financial aid may result in penalties. I understand that petitions missing required documentation will not be processed.

Student Signature

Date

Spouse or Parent Signature (if applicable)

Date

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