



Statement by a specialist

Regulation student grant in case of ‘uncooperative parents’

Students can apply for a supplementary grant, as part of their student grant, to the Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs (DUO). That supplementary grant depends on the parental income. For that reason, DUO sends the form *Statement of parents’ details* to the student, with the request to have the parents complete the form and send it back to DUO. Based on the information on the form, DUO will request their incomes from the tax authority.

Sometimes, the parents do not want or are unable to cooperate and return the *Statement of parents’ details* form. In that case, the student can call on the ‘uncooperative parents’ regulation. The student can ask DUO to request the parental income directly from the Tax and Customs Administration or to leave their parents’

income out of consideration when the supplementary grant is calculated.

Why is a statement required?

A request submitted by a student to leave their parents’ income out of consideration when the supplementary grant is calculated, must be supported by statements. This is a legal requirement. DUO will then ask the student to submit a statement by a specialist, such as a study advisor, social worker, psychologist or youth care. That is why the student has come to you with this information sheet. The sheet specifies the information required in your statement, and for which three situations you will be asked to provide a statement.

Requirements of your statement

The statement you write must:

- relate to the personal situation of the student
- be based on your own knowledge or examination of the student's personal situation
- be signed by you
- be written on letter-headed paper of the institution you work for.

Situations in which a statement is required

Situation 1:

no contact since age 12

The student has not had any significant contact with one or both parents since the age of 12 or earlier.

Your statement must include at least the following information:

- the age from which the student has had no contact with one or both parents
- that contact between the student and the parent or parents has been severed and why (in brief).

Situation 2:

serious ongoing dispute

The student has a serious ongoing dispute with one or both parents. The dispute is not solely about financial matters.

Your statement must clearly show:

- The cause of the dispute
- since what age the student has been estranged from one or both parents as a result of the ongoing dispute
- how the dispute developed
- The background and causes of the broken parent-child relationship.

Situation 3:

the student doesn't know where their parent or parents live

Your statement must include at least the following information:

- what the relationship between parent or parents and the student was like
- how that relationship developed over time and why the student does not know where their parent or parents currently live.

Privacy

DUO will only use your statement to establish if the parental income can be left out of consideration. Your statement will expressly not be used for other purposes. DUO will handle the information with due care and does so based on the requirements set out in relevant privacy legislation.

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