



## Sample Appeal Letter

Ms. Joan Stinson, M.B.A.

Financial Director School Name

1640 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Berea, OH 44017

Dear Ms. Stinson;

My son, Gil and I are excited about the possibility of him attending your school. Through our research we understand the academic and community life offerings which we feel are an outstanding opportunity for Gil.

However, we would like to bring to your attention our strained financial situation that may result in Gil not being able to attend your school.

As you know we applied for Financial Aid with the completion of the FAFSA.

Our family 2012 income reported on the FAFSA was estimated at \$104,215.

The FAFSA does not accurately depict our family financial situation and the ability to contribute to Gil's college expenses.

First my income was higher last year as a result of an unusual bonus from my employer of \$29,000. The generous act on my employer's part is a one-time event and will not be repeated in 2013.

I no longer receive child support from Gil's biological father because he turned 18 years five months ago. This reduces our family income by \$8,400. On top of that I asked Gil's father to help with educational costs and he said he would not help. We were divorced in 2016 (Exhibit 2).

In addition, we are responsible for our 14-year old son's private school tuition which for this year is \$7,500 and trending upwards.

On top of all this my husband lost his job a three months ago. In this economy and at his age (58) we are hopeful but very uncertain when he might find employment. In the meantime we no longer receive his

income. He is receiving unemployment benefits (Exhibit 3 Monthly Income Reduction).

Both Gil and I sincerely appreciate your time in reviewing our financial situation. As you can see the FAFSA reporting process does not account for our situation.

Gil's first choice is your school, it always has been since he first researched your school and visited. He especially likes the English major department head (Professor Johnson) who he was fortunate to meet.

We have no other choice without your consideration in looking toward several other schools where Gil was accepted and received financial aid awards. In doing our budget these schools are more affordable with our available financial resources and family ability to pay for college.

Gil wants to attend your school but understands the financial situation. His first choice remains your college (insert name).

Can you consider making your offer more affordable to our family by improving the offer to \$19,000 from the current \$12,600?

Gil, his father, and I would like to meet with you next week to thank you for your consideration in person.

We will call for an appointment.

Thank you so much for your assistance.

Exhibits: (4)

cc: Professor Johnson