

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Justin Perkins. I am writing this letter because I would really like the chance to play football this season. I understand I have made many wrong choices and I also understand that I am ineligible because of my grades. I am hoping to be considered for a hardship.

The last year and a half has been tough. I was having a lot of family issues. My father was hitting me and my younger sister so Child Protective Services came to our house and we had to do in-home counseling. After the case was closed my dad and I started having issues again. I went to go live with my Grandma and Grandpa, but then my Grandpa had a stroke and died. He had always told me to make the right decisions and he always wanted me to play football. So, it hurt a lot when he died and I had to go back to living with my parents. I also started not really paying attention in school.

When I got into 10th grade I started hanging out with the wrong crowd and I was getting in trouble a lot so my school put me on a contract. I started slowly doing better, but then my younger sister got in trouble and was sent to jail. My dad was blaming me saying I was the reason she was messing up. My anger would build and build. When someone would do something or say something to me I would want to fight and that's why I got kicked out of Redondo Union High School.

I was sent to Redondo Shores Continuation High School. I got caught up doing bad things. I was surrounding myself with the wrong crowd. I started smoking pot and drinking. My sister finally got out of jail and I was excited because she said she was going to do better and stay out of trouble, but then she got involved in prostitution and she ran away from home.

My dad was able to get the phone number of my sister's pimp. He is a 22 year old gang member. When my dad called him he told my dad he'd better watch out and that he would kill him and his kids. My sister told me that the pimp told her he would kill her and her family if she told on him. The pimp's girlfriend was texting me on social media telling me my sister was theirs.

I began to get mad and started hanging out with the wrong kids at Shores again. I started smoking pot and drinking a lot so that I wouldn't hurt because of what my sister was doing. My dad and I were arguing a lot, so I would run away from home and stay with those friends that were a bad influence. One time when I ran away I got drunk and had a seizure and ended up in the hospital.

After I had the seizure, I realized I had been messing up and I didn't want to live my life going to jail or with people looking down on me. I asked if I could move to Oregon and live with my aunt and uncle. I wanted to get away from all of the bad friends I had made and to start fresh. I am trying to do what my Grandpa always wanted me to do, to make good choices and play football. I think it would be so good to be given a hardship so I can keep myself out of trouble and get on the right path to success.

Thank you,
Justin Perkins

