

Writing a Statement of Financial Need

This is a short (1 – 2 paragraph) piece that explains why you would benefit from being awarded a scholarship.

Here are some points that you should consider including:

- a) How are you currently financing your education? Sources of financial aid, help from family, taking out student loans or private loans, working at a job.
- b) What difficulties have you faced in paying for your education? Are there extra costs this year? If you are studying abroad, how does paying for your program compare with paying for your semester at UMass Amherst? Has there been a change in your family or personal situation that is making it harder for you to pay for college?
- c) What would you gain from this scholarship? Would it help you to be able to work less so that you can focus on your studies? Do you need support so that you can take an unpaid internship, an interns or community service?

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