

Foster Student Success Fund Grant Dean of Student Main Office

The University of Massachusetts Amherst Foster Student Success fund seeks to provide grants to matriculated undergraduate students in good standing for unexpected financial hardship, costs associated with career preparation or graduation/commencement, basic needs, and/or unforeseen personal/family emergencies.

To apply for a Foster Student Success Fund Grant, students must complete a **Foster Student Success Fund Grant Application**. Applications can be found on the following web site: http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/dean-students-office-forms

- Provide all requested information, sign, and date the application
- Answer all questions
- Include relevant documentation
- Complete the budget sheet
- Drop-off application to the Dean of Students Main Office in Whitmore 227

The UMass Amherst Foster Student Success Fund Grant is funded with donations the Foster Student Success Fund. Funding is limited each semester. Therefore, it is possible that every grant request will not be funded. Some of the reasons requests are denied include but are not limited to:

- Incomplete Application
- Application lacks supporting documentation
- Application does not clearly explain how the grant will resolve the described financial emergency or fully address the financial need
- The student is not an active undergraduate student according to enrollment information.
- The student's Bursar bill is unpaid, or the student is delinquent in a payment plan.
- The student has other holds in their SPIRE account which prevents enrollment or the Add/Drop of classes.
- The student is already at the maximum financial aid allotted for the semester (i.e., the financial aid award has already met the calculated "unmet need").
- The student is not making sufficient academic progress (credits earned) or, the cumulative GPA is less than 2.0.
- Insufficient funds available in the fund.
- The student does not meet the verification requirements for being a former or voluntary foster care youth.

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The University of Massachusetts Amherst Foster Student Success fund seeks to provide grants to matriculated undergraduate students in good standing for unexpected financial hardship, costs associated with career preparation or graduation/commencement, basic needs, and/or unforeseen personal/family emergencies.

- The program's long-range goal is to ensure access by the widest range of students in need. This grant fund is made possible by generous donations to the Foster Student Success Fund.
- The Dean of Students Main Office staff administratively manage the program by reviewing and awarding grants by a Committee to eligible students on a case-by-case basis. A student may be awarded only once per academic year. The maximum amount for a grant is \$500.

The information requested below will help determine your eligibility for this grant.

Date of Request: _____ Amount Requested: _____
(Maximum \$500)

Student First & Last Name: _____

SPIRE ID #: _____ Primary Academic Major: _____

Local Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Cell/Home phone: _____ UMass Amherst Email: _____

I am currently registered for _____ credits

Expected Graduation: ___ Spring / ___ Summer / ___ Fall, 20____

Cumulative GPA: _____

1. Briefly explain the nature of your financial need and how the grant you are requesting will be used. (*If you need more space, please use other side or attach statement*).

2. Do you have documentation the financial need, or can you obtain such documentation (e.g., police report, medical bill, court dispensation notice, unemployment notice, internship notification, scholarship rejection, etc.)?
_____ Yes _____ No

3. What efforts have you made to procure financing from other sources?

4. Please complete this budget sheet so the Committee has a better understanding of your funding sources and expenses:

Monthly Income

Item	Amount	Notes
Financial Aid Refund for Current Semester (In total)		
Job 1: _____		
Job 2: _____		
Job 3: _____		
Benefits (Social Security, SNAP, G.I. Bill, TANF, etc.)		
Other: _____		

Fixed Expenses (per month)

Only if you live off-campus should you include rent, utilities etc. The Committee can review on-campus expenses in SPIRE.

Item	Amount	Notes
Tuition Payment Plan (only if you are paying directly, do not include if someone else is paying tuition for you)		
Rent/Mortgage (off-campus)		
Renter's/Home Insurance		
Car Payment		
Car Insurance		
Childcare		
Loan Payments		
Other: _____		

Variable Expenses (average per month)

Item	Amount	Notes
Utilities (Electric, water, gas, etc.)		
Groceries		
Toiletries/Household Items		
Other Needed Household Items		
Medical Bills/Medication		
Other: _____		
Other: _____		

Other Expenses (average per month)

Item	Amount	Notes
Internet		
Cable		
Cell Phone		
Subscriptions (Netflix, Spotify, etc.)		
Other: _____		
Other: _____		

5. If approved, this grant could affect awarded Financial Aid or Federal Income Taxes.

The amount of any grant provided may be considered taxable income and reported on a tax form 1098-T. Students are encouraged to contact a tax professional to make a determination on whether or not this grant is taxable. Federal loans may be reduced by the amount of this award. If awarded, this grant does not require re-payment.

Initial to agree to these terms: _____

I, the undersigned, certify that the information provided on this application is true:

Applicant Name _____ (please print/type)

Applicant Signature _____ (please sign) Date _____

Completed applications should be submitted to the Dean of Students Main Office in Whitmore 227.
If you have additional questions, please contact Cara Appel-Silbaugh, Ph.D., Dean of Students at caras@umass.edu or 413-545-2684.

Dean of Students Main Office Staff, please check the box when the step is complete:

Log Application in Voice Upload Application in Box Add Application to Data Sheet in Box

Grant Committee, please complete the following:

Financial Aid Information: _____

Outstanding University Bills: _____

SPIRE Holds: _____

Other: _____

Approve: \$ _____ Deny Pending

Review Date: _____

Notes: