

Success Fund for Student Emergencies Application



Funded through the generosity of donors to the Oakton College Educational Foundation, the Success Fund for Student Emergencies (SFSE) assists Oakton students who encounter an **unforeseen emergency or catastrophic event** that would otherwise prevent them from earning a degree or certificate at Oakton. Each applicant is asked to describe, in detail, the nature of the emergency and state how the SFSE would assist in alleviating the circumstances.

Eligibility

To be considered for assistance from the SFSE, students must be registered in at least **six** credit hours for the current semester, have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 for all coursework completed at Oakton or be a new student to Oakton, and complete the Application Process described below.

Award

The maximum SFSE award per student is \$500 per calendar year. For approved personal expense payments, such as rent, medical bills, utilities, child care, etc., the award will be in the form of a check made payable and directly mailed to a third party on behalf of the student. For approved textbook and transit pass purchases, a photo ID will be required to receive designated items. For approved groceries or gas requests, the payment will be in the form of a gift card provided directly to the student. This award is considered taxable income and students are responsible for reporting the sum when filing tax returns. Due to limited funding, every request may not be approved. Repeated requests from the same student also are not likely to be approved. (*Note: Direct payment will not be made to the student.*)

Procedure

Students interested in applying for the SFSE must complete the Application Process below. Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Applications are considered based on the students' academic program, educational goals, grade point average, application content and quality, financial aid, financial need, financial emergency, and/or special circumstances. Students will be notified of the decision within 10 business days, after which the awards will be disbursed. All decisions are final; not all applications will be approved.

Application Process

- ☐ Complete the SFSE Application in its entirety;
- ☐ Complete the Budget Exercise by *GradReady® Money Management* and attach the Budget Worksheet (*see instructions on page two*);
- ☐ For each bill, attach a PDF copy which includes the full account number (*screenshots and other formats will not be accepted*);
- ☐ Submit the SFSE Application, Budget Worksheet, bill copies with account numbers, and any additional documents to studentaffairs@oakton.edu or Oakton College, Office of Student Affairs, Room 2817, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016.

Student Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Student ID #: B0 _____

Address: _____ Apt #: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Preferred Email: _____

Are you living with your parent(s) or guardian? ☐ Yes ☐ No

College Information

Select the statement that best describes your educational objectives:

- ☐ Obtain an Associate in General Studies (A.G.S.) degree at Oakton and transfer to another educational institution.
- ☐ Obtain an associate degree or certificate in a career program.
- ☐ Other (*please explain*): _____

Student Financial Information

Have you applied for Student Financial Assistance or a scholarship to pay for any part of your tuition/fees at Oakton? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Marital status: _____ Number of dependents: _____ Are you currently employed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES, my current employer is: _____

Continue...

Budget Exercise

Oakton partners with *GradReady*®, an interactive online financial literacy learning tool. SFSE applicants are required to complete a Budget Worksheet. Register at <https://oaktoncommunitycollege.gradready.com>, navigate to Path 2, Money Management, and Build a Budget. Once you’ve completed the exercise, print or attach as a PDF the Budget Worksheet to the application.

Assistance Request

Have you applied for emergency funds at Oakton College before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you received emergency funds from Oakton College before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Amount of funds requested: \$_____ (maximum \$500)

Please select the categories that best describes your request for funding: *(Note: Tuition is not funded.)*

- ☐ Child care
- ☐ Utilities
- ☐ Natural disaster/fire
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Medical expenses
- ☐ Food/meals
- ☐ Housing/rent
- ☐ Textbooks
- ☐ Other *(please specify)*: _____

Describe **in detail** your unforeseen emergency and how these funds will help alleviate the hardship. In addition, describe your academic and career goals and provide a timeline to achieve these goals. *(Attach additional pages and documentation as necessary):*

How did you hear about Oakton’s Success Fund for Student Emergencies? _____

Authorization

I certify that the information provided in the application is accurate. I hereby give Oakton College permission to release information about my major, grade point average, enrollment status, financial aid status, and other SFSE eligibility criteria including my personal statement, if applicable, to those involved in the selection process.

I understand that my personal statement, or a portion of the statement, may be used in Oakton promotional materials. Furthermore, I give Oakton College permission to use my biographical information, my personal statement, and/or photograph in promotional materials, media releases, and other college publications.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Amount Approved: \$_____ Purpose: _____

Vice President of Student Affairs Approval: _____ Date: _____