



CSU | LAW Student Financial Assistance Fund: Emergency Grant Application

If you are experiencing a financial hardship, applying for a grant from the Emergency Financial Assistance Fund (the “Fund”) might help. For purposes of this program, a financial emergency is defined as **an unforeseen expense that, if not resolved quickly, could lead to the student’s departure from the law school and loss of momentum toward completion.**

The Cost of Attendance set by the University includes a significant budget for expenses related to the costs of attending school, including:

- Tuition
- Housing and Meals
- Books and Supplies
- Transportation
- Personal and Miscellaneous Expenses

Students are expected to understand the Cost of Attendance and plan a personal budget that does not exceed the available funds.

The Student Emergency Financial Assistance Fund is funded solely by gifts from donors. Because of limited available funds, grants awarded by the Fund rarely exceed \$500 of support to any one student, in any one academic year. You may request support of up to \$1,000, but such a request must demonstrate extraordinary and extreme hardship. Extraordinary and extreme hardship does not generally include: exceeding the Cost of Attendance budget covered expenses, being unable to find during-school employment, or budgeting miscalculation.

Possible Expenses Covered by the Fund (this list is not exhaustive):

- Car Repairs
- Child Care
- Medications and other costs related to unanticipated medical care
- Rent to prevent eviction
- Replacement of essential personal belongings or temporary housing needs, due to fire, theft, or natural disaster
- Safety needs (i.e. changing a lock)
- Utility bill to prevent late fees or shut off
- Travel costs related to a death or illness in the immediate family

Examples of Expenses that Cannot be Covered by the Fund:

- Tuition
- Expenses that were incurred prior to enrolling in the College of Law
- Expenses related to regular spending on items covered by the University's Cost of Attendance budget

We encourage you to reach out to the Assistant Dean of Student Services, Allison Bolt, to discuss your circumstances. Our goal is to ensure that every student has what they need to succeed, and we will work with you to ensure you know of all available resources to help.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be currently enrolled at the College of Law in a terminal degree program.
- Applicants must have an immediate financial hardship resulting from an emergency, accident, or other unexpected critical incident.
- The expense must be unexpected, unforeseen, and the urgent nature unavoidable.
- Other resources, including emergency loans through Cleveland State's Office of Financial Aid must have been considered and are insufficient, unavailable, or not available in a timely manner.
- Applicants must complete all questions in full and submit supporting documentation.

Application Process

Students who need emergency financial assistance may submit an application and supporting documentation to Assistant Dean Allison Bolt at a.bolt@csuohio.edu. The Emergency Financial Assistance Fund Committee, comprised of staff and faculty, reviews the submitted applications and determines whether funding will be granted and the appropriate funding amount. Note that in most cases, financial support is provided by directly paying the bills or third parties to which you owe money.

CSU|LAW Student Financial Assistance Fund: Application Information

Our goal is to support as many students as possible. We may not be able to grant every request or, in some cases, offer the full amount requested. Applicants may be required to meet with the Assistant Dean of Student Services to discuss their application, or to respond to additional questions from the committee.

If you are currently receiving financial aid, please be aware that receiving funding from the Emergency Fund may affect your future aid packages. CSU makes no representations as to tax implications of receiving this grant.

Emergency grant recipients will be required, after receiving any funding, to meet with All-in-One to review financial aid packages and with AccessLex for individual financial advising.

Student CSU ID #:	
Full Name:	
CSU LAW Email:	
Local Address:	

Please respond to these questions:

1. Are you currently receiving financial aid/scholarships? Y N If yes, what is the average amount that you borrow each academic year to finance your education?
2. Have you received funds from the Emergency Fund before? If yes, please list the date(s) and amount(s).
3. What is the amount you are requesting with this application? \$ _____

Please submit **an attached statement** that addresses each of the following:

- 1) Provide a summary of the reason why emergency funds are needed and what the funds will be used for. You must directly address what is the emergency that has impacted you and what are the related unforeseen costs. (Priority will be given to students whose tenure at CSU|LAW may be at risk because of unforeseen expenses. For full consideration attach copies of all supporting documentation. Documentation should include copies of bills, receipts, legal notices, etc.)
- 2) Explain why the unforeseen costs you have incurred might affect your ability to remain enrolled or slow momentum toward your degree.
- 3) Describe your efforts to obtain assistance for these unforeseen expenses through other resources. You should specifically address whether you have considered taking additional student loans, and why that is not sufficient to resolve your expense. (For example, if you have taken loans already to the full cost of attendance, or if the loans are not timely available to you.)
- 4) If your request is for support to cover an expense that is included as part of the cost of attendance calculation (<https://www.csuohio.edu/financial-aid/cost-attendance>), please explain why the amount in the cost of attendance budget is not sufficient to meet your need. (For example, an unexpected medical expense required you to re-allocate funding that would have otherwise gone towards rent, or an unexpected childcare expense reduced the amount available for books and supplies.) **Remember that any grant awarded will align with the amount of the unforeseen expense itself, up to \$500.**
- 5) Moving forward, what is your plan for managing unforeseen expenses during your time in law school?

Certification

I certify that the information I have provided is true and complete. I understand that the information will be provided to the Emergency Financial Assistance Fund committee for consideration. I will notify the Assistant Dean for Student Services in writing immediately if after submission of this application there is any change in the information provided. I understand that falsifying or withholding information in this application may result in a referral to the Honor Council.

Signature: _____

Date: _____