



Student Emergency Loan Fund

History: This loan fund was developed in 2003 by Professor Kenneth Ferris and a number of other donors primarily made up of faculty, staff and students. The purpose is to provide emergency loan funds for all current students experiencing financial hardship.

Criteria and Process:

The money will be available for current students who are experiencing financial hardship) preferably living expenses vs. tuition). Students will be expected to repay the loan after graduation. The loan rate will be 0% and with a preferred cap at up to \$2,000 per award. The loan rate can be adjusted yearly but not to exceed 7%. Prof. Ferris prefers that no interest rate is used. The goal will be to select a rate that can be utilized for several years. The stated payback period will begin 4 months after graduation or withdrawal; payment must be made monthly and be completed within 24 months. After that, an interest rate not to exceed 7% will accrue on the unpaid portion. Borrowers will be encouraged to contact the School should they have difficulty in repaying the loan, so that we may work with them. It will be the responsibility of the Executive Scholarship Committee and the Controller to establish the interest rate each July. The Controller will get final approval from the Chief Administrative and Financial Officer, Associate Vice President of Finance and Accounting, and the Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Director of Development. In addition, any interest paid/earned will go back into the original loan account. This will help cover bad debts, deaths, etc., as is currently done with existing loans. However, it is the hope that the recipients will give back more than they received in order to help future recipients.

Selection Committee:

The Executive Scholarship Committee is responsible for developing the criteria and awarding the loan opportunities. In addition, the paperwork to the students should stress the idea, "that the hope is that the recipients will give back more than they received in order to help other future recipients."

Application and Award Process:

- The Director of Financial Aid will meet with a prospective candidate and perform a preliminary screening to determine the student's financial situation.
- The Director of Financial Aid will provide the student with the application.
- The student will have 10 working days to return the completed application with supporting documentation. If the student needs an extension, he/she must contact the Director of Financial Aid and receive permission and a new deadline. This must be documented in writing.
- The Executive Scholarship Committee will have 10 working days to review and make a decision.
- The Director of Financial Aid will notify the student of the decision.
- If the student does not return the completed application and supporting documentation by the deadline or notify the Director of Financial Aid that he/she has decided not to apply, the student will forfeit the right to apply for funding in the future from this loan fund.

Award Amount: Maximum loan is \$2,000