UWM EMERGENCY GRANT

• Provides up to $1,000 per undergraduate student during the duration of the grant cycle (fall 2017 through summer 2019) for expenses related to unforeseen emergencies.
• UWM will award $330,000 in emergency funding for the 2017-2018 academic year.
• UWM will award $345,000 in emergency funding for the 2018-2019 academic year.
ELIGIBILITY

• Student must complete FAFSA.
• Student must have expected family contribution of $7,000 or less.
• Student must provide documentation for emergency expenses.
• Student must be enrolled during the semester they apply.
• Emergency funding cannot cover tuition, fees, books, or other university expenses.
HOW TO APPLY

• Student can apply:
  – via a web-based portal: uwm.dreamkeepers.org
  – by visiting the Dean of Students Office.

• Students can log in multiple times to update their application.
  – Start the application when meeting with a staff member.
  – Upload documents to the application later in the day.
  – Once they hit submit, they can turn in more documents to dos@uwm.edu

• Documentation includes
  – Utility bills
  – Car repair estimate/bill
  – Lease
  – Medical bills
  – Other relevant documents
APPLICATION PROCESSING

- DOS staff will contact student to schedule a time to meet.
- Student is assigned a DOS staff member to meet & review their case.
  - Go over circumstances and finances
  - Offer additional resources
  - Sign required paperwork (W-9 for tax purposes).
- When application is complete, DOS Staff member will update the web-based portal.
REVIEW PROCESS

• Applications reviewed within 48 hours of completion (including meeting with DOS staff):
  – Applications completed by noon will be reviewed the same day.
  – Applications completed after noon will be reviewed the following day.

• Applications reviewed based on the grant criteria.
  – No passing judgement on students’ decisions.
  – Determine if expenses (or events triggering financial emergency) are unforeseen.
  – Evaluating amount of funds to issue when students do not have a clear idea about how much they need.
REVIEW TEAM

• Dean of Students Office
  – Most applications can be reviewed by DOS only.
  – Complicated cases are reviewed by a team including:

• Financial Aid

• Academic Advisors
  – Ashlie Schaffner
  – Nikki Claas
  – Jennifer Daoood
HOW ARE STUDENTS GIVEN FUNDS

• Once an application is approved, checks are processed.
• Checks are cut in 2 business days.
• Students will be issued two-party checks.
• Student may be issued gift cards for food, toiletries, etc.
• Students must submit receipt or invoice for items purchased.
FOLLOW UP WITH STUDENT

• Students may also be asked or encouraged to engage in ongoing support activities.
  – Financial literacy from well-trained financial professionals (UWCU)
  – Meet with advisor, instructors, etc.
  – Follow up meeting with DOS Staff member
  – Use the food pantry
  – Connect to services via 211
  – Apply for public assistance (food share, health insurance, etc.)
  – Explore additional financial assistance
  – Tutoring via PASS
  – Laptop Rental with Bookstore
  – Initial consultation with University Counseling
  – Meet with the Career Planning and Resource Center to help find employment.
  – Meet with Neighborhood Housing/University Housing to explore housing options
  – And so on…
HOW YOU CAN HELP

• Reach out to students who seem to be financially struggling.
• Refer students to uwm.edu/deanofstudents/assistance/uwm-emergency-grant/
• Refer students to uwm.dreamkeepers.org to apply for a grant.
• Refer students to the Dean of Students Office to begin case management.
• DOS staff may reach out to you and ask you to be a resource to a student. Please give this student extra attention.
WHEN YOU REFER STUDENTS

• Be caring and compassionate but do NOT give them the impression that they will be given a grant.

  If you think they may meet the criteria:

  Tell the student, “The Dean of Students Office is a great resource for students who experience extreme or unusual circumstances while they are enrolled at UWM. They have funding to issue emergency grants. I think you should submit an application. A staff member will meet with you to see if you are eligible for the grant.”

  If you know they don’t meet the criteria (grad student, no FAFSA, not enrolled):

  Do not fill out the online application. Refer them directly to the Dean of Students Office (walk them over, copy the student on an email to dos@uwm.edu). Tell the student, “The Dean of Students Office is a great resource for students who experience extreme or unusual circumstances while they are enrolled at UWM. They may be able to identify resources to assist you.”
GRANT EXAMPLES

• Hurricane Harvey, lost wages
• Divorce, spouse hid debt, car was repossessed
• Job loss, utilities shut off, car repossessed
Dean of Students Office
Mellencamp 118
dos@uwm.edu
414-229-4632
uwm.edu/deanofstudents
**Click on Emergency Grant**

UWM Emergency Grant Application
uwm.dreamkeepers.org