



**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Illinois' first public university

**Office of International Studies
and Programs**
Fell Hall, Room 236
Campus Box 6120
Normal, IL 61790-6120
Phone: (309) 438-5276
Fax: (309) 438-3987
InternationalStudies.IllinoisState.edu

Emergency Fund for International Students with an Outstanding Tuition Balance

The Office of the Provost and the Office of International Studies and Programs offer emergency grant funds (subject to availability and application approval) up to \$3,000 for international students who are unable to make full payment of their tuition due to the following three reasons:

1. War, violence, or political unrest that destabilizes the business and economy of a student's home country;
2. Recorded natural disaster that significantly damaged the business and economy of the area of student's origin;
3. The death and/or severe illness of the financial provider as shown on the financial documents submitted by the student as supporting material for the I-20/DS-2019 process.

If a student's situation meets one of these three criteria, they should submit an application package through the link below:

https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/oisp_emergency_fund

The application package should include the following information and supporting documents:

1. Your name and ULID.
2. Your major, undergraduate or graduate, year of study.
3. A brief statement describing the reasons why you are applying for emergency funds. Please identify which of the three above-mentioned criteria apply in your case.
4. Supporting materials documenting the emergency.
 - a. **If your case falls into either category 1 or 2:**
"War, violence, or political unrest that destabilize the business and economy of a student's home country;" or
"Recorded natural disaster that significantly damaged the business and economy of the area of student's origin,"
Please provide documents that demonstrate the incident occurred and its impact on your financial provider. This may include for example, copies of news coverage of the incident(s) and evidence that your financial provider's financial situation has been significantly impacted by the stated national/regional situation to an extent that he/she is unable to provide the guaranteed payment.
 - b. **If your case falls into the third category (serious illness/death)**

“The death and/or severe illness of the financial provider as shown on the financial documents submitted by the student as supporting material for the I-20/DS-2019 process,”

Depending on the nature of the severe economic hardship, the supporting documents that should be provided include:

i. Death of the financial guarantor:

In the event of the death of the financial guarantor listed on the I-20/DS-2019, a copy of the official document from the appropriate legal or governmental agency should be provided.

ii. Severe Illness of financial guarantor:

In the event of a severe illness, the student’s statement should be supported by an affidavit (notorized letter) from the financial guarantor that states he/she is medically unable to carry on his/her business to such an extent that he/she can no longer guarantee payment. Additionally, a support letter from the financial guarantor’s hospital or doctor should be provided if possible.

Timeline:

Students should submit the applications as soon as the situation occurs. Students should be aware however that the emergency funds are limited and applications may not be approved if funds are depleted.

Use of Emergency Fund:

The emergency fund can only be applied to outstanding balances due for tuition, not other expenses.

Disclaimer:

1. Only students who meet one or more of the eligibility criteria and have acceptable documentation to support their claim will be approved for use of the emergency fund. Financial hardships caused by other reasons are not eligible for applying for this fund.
2. Due to the constraint of the funding available, not all qualified applicants will be awarded the fund. A selection process is in place. A decision on whether your application is approved and the amount of the award from the fund will be communicated two weeks after the submission of your application.
3. The Office of International Studies and Programs reserves the right to request further documentation as needed.
4. Students who meet these criteria should also consider applying for “F1 Economic Hardship Employment” through SEVIS. Please contact your international student advisor for the application of the “F1 Economic Hardship Employment.” The process of the application for the “F1 Economic Hardship Employment” through SEVIS is a separate process from the application for this university-based emergency fund.

If you have any additional questions about the application for this emergency grant fund, please contact Dr. Yimin Wang, Associate Director of the Office of International Studies and Programs, at ywan107@ilstu.edu.