**Emergency Funds**

*As of 2.10.20*

**Overview**

The Scholar Emergency Fund provides critical and timely financial assistance to High School and College Scholars experiencing a crisis or transition. Funds should be used solely for the purposes of continuing education – **tuition, books, housing, transportation, school fees, and other expenditures that will prevent or avert a crisis and/or support Scholars to persist towards college graduation.** The emergency fund is to be used as a last resort when other efforts -- such as self-funding, family funding, or funding from the college -- have not succeeded in meeting financial needs, and the student's ongoing educational progress is threatened or limited. Evanston Scholars wants ALL of our Scholars to succeed, and we don’t want small financial hurdles to get in the way of finishing school. At the same time, we also want to make sure that Scholars are becoming financially responsible.

**Criteria**

Approval will be made according to the following criteria:

* Whether the money is clearly directed towards educational purposes
* Whether or not it is a reasonable request as it relates to your continuing education
* Whether the request is supported with appropriate evidence
* Changing situations or extenuating circumstances
* Whether or not the Scholar is demonstrating the Pillars of Success *(PERRC’s)*
* Whether the Scholar could have easily avoided the financial downfall *(i.e. chose not to work over summer)*
* Whether other funding sources have been examined and exhausted
* If the Scholar’s work study and/or summer earnings aren't sufficient to help deal with the issue or crisis *(i.e. if internship was taken instead of paid work)*
* If crisis is due to failing or low grades, has student taken any action steps to improve?

**Range of possible requests**

* Emergency Funds can be requested for up to $500 at a time
* Each Scholar can request for up to $2,000 for the duration of their existence in HS/College.