

COLUMBIA SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

1255 Amsterdam Avenue, 5th Floor New York, NY 10027
212.851.2293 • 212.851.2298 fax swfinaid@columbia.edu
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ssw/finaid/>

ALTERNATIVE FUNDING APPEAL FORM

This form is only to be completed by a student who was denied a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan or a private loan, has appealed the decision and made all reasonable attempts to clear up any credit report discrepancies or to secure a co-signer, but is still unable to get approval for either type of loan.

Based on the information you provide below, the Columbia School of Social Work will assess your funding needs in order to cover your “basic cost of attendance (COA)” during the academic year. “Basic cost of attendance” is defined as: tuition and fees, books, transportation, rent, utilities, phone, food, and basic personal expenses (e.g. such as for toiletries and everyday items).

The school **cannot** provide you funding for the following items:

- Credit card payments
- Educational or private loan repayment
- Discretionary (optional) medical or dental procedures
- Spousal maintenance expenses
- Student conferences
- Purchase/maintenance of a car (*Federal law prohibits the School from providing aid for consumer debt, which includes car payments and car insurance.*)
- Other non-educational related expenses
- Expenses incurred during periods of non-enrollment

PLEASE NOTE: Submitting an appeal does not guarantee that the School will be able to offer you funding equal to your total funding request or stated total of “basic cost of attendance.” The school has very limited funding, and while we do all we can to assist students with high need, we cannot guarantee that we’ll be able to meet your desired level of funding. All funding appeals are carefully reviewed by the Assistant Director and Director of Financial Aid. In most cases, a decision about your appeal will be rendered within 5-7 business. You will be notified via email of this decision and your next steps, if applicable.

Alternative Funding Appeal Form

First name: _____ Last name: _____ UNI: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Total requested amount of funding: \$ _____

Please list the funding you have already been offered or will be receiving:

CU Scholarship _____
 Federal Unsubsidized Loan _____ Federal Work Study _____
 Federal Perkins Loan _____ Outside (non-CU) funding _____

BUDGET ITEM	COST/EXPENSE
1. Tuition (Fall/Spring or Spring/Summer, as noted in your award letter)	\$ _____
2. Fees (as noted in your award letter)	\$ _____
TOTAL (Tuition and Fees – add items #1-#2)	\$ _____
3. Books	\$ _____
4. Rent (your share only, if you are living with someone)	\$ _____
5. Utilities (your share only, if you are living with someone)	\$ _____
6. Phone	\$ _____
7. Food	\$ _____
8. Transportation	\$ _____
9. Personal expenses (e.g. for toiletries and basic every day needs) - per month	_____
10. Child Care ¹	\$ _____
11. Other:	\$ _____
12. Other:	\$ _____
TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES (add items #3-#12)	\$ _____
OVERALL TOTAL 'BASIC COST OF ATTENDANCE' (add all of the above listed items)	\$ _____

For your above listed living expenses (e.g. rent, food, utilities, etc.), please provide copies of at least one month's bill or proof of payment and receipts for the indicated item and total cost. Examples include: a copy of your lease or rental agreement to verify your monthly rent; a copy of your utility bill; a copy of your monthly phone bill; one month's worth of food bills/receipts, etc.

By signing this form you agree that all of the information and documentation presented to the Office of Financial Aid is accurate, to the best of your knowledge, and that you will notify the Office of Financial Aid if there is any change to the information you have provided. Alternative funding appeals are reviewed within 5-7 days of receipt all necessary documents, and you will be notified via your Columbia e-mail address of the decision regarding your request.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
Appeal approved: _____	Approved increase: \$ _____	Appeal Denied: _____
Reason/comments: _____		
Staff name & signature: _____	Date: _____	

¹ Maximum of \$1,000/month; only allowed if single parent or if spouse is also enrolled in school or employed at least part-time.