



UC Davis Health Equity Fund FAQ's

Who is eligible to obtain assistance from this grant?

All graduate and undergraduate students who are currently eligible for services at Student Health and Counseling Services at UC Davis. The student must have no outstanding financial balance with the campus.

UC SHIP enrolled students must apply for charity care from the provider of service in order to be eligible for this grant. Dependents of UC SHIP enrolled students who are enrolled in the UC SHIP dependent coverage are also eligible.

Is there a monetary limit to what can be requested from the grant?

Grants may be requested for expenses that total at least \$50, up to a total of \$2,500.

There is a finite amount of funds available to be requested. Once the funds have been exhausted, there will be no additional funds granted for the remainder of the academic year.

What types of services are eligible for assistance?

The following services are eligible for assistance, but services must be medically necessary:

- Hospitalization
- In-patient care (includes mental health/substance abuse)
- Hospice Care
- Diagnostic Testing
- Emergency Medical Transportation
- Childbirth/Delivery Professional Services
- Childbirth/Delivery Facility Services
- Skilled Nursing
- Outpatient Surgery
- Out-patient care (includes mental health/substance abuse)
- Physician/Surgeon Services
- Imaging Services (MRI/CT/PET scans)
- Durable Medical Equipment

How do I know if a service is deemed medically necessary?

Your insurance company claims administrator will provide you with an Explanation of Benefits (EOB), which shows the services rendered, billed charges, the allowed amount for payment, and your responsibility, if any. Your insurance company will only make payment on medically necessary services.

How do I obtain a copy of an Explanation of Benefits (EOB)?

Your insurance company will mail you an EOB, unless you have elected to receive your communications from your insurance company electronically. You may also contact your insurance company customer service department to request a copy of your EOB be mailed to you.

How do I apply for the assistance?

You must complete an application through the Health-e-Messaging system.

- Once logged in, select “Messages”
- Select “New Message”
- Select “Student Health Services”
- Select “Health Equity Fund Application”
- Complete the entire form, including the “Reason for Requesting Funds”
- Add all required documentation (approved formats of attachments – pdf, jpeg)

What is charity care, and how do I apply for it?

Charity care is health care provided for free or at reduced prices to low income patients. Please contact the provider’s office that is billing for these services in writing to ask if they have any form of charity care. Some providers have applications, some require a letter of request, while others may not offer any sort of charity care. For those that do allow for charity care, they may review your request and offer to write off the amount owed, they may write off a portion of the billed amount, or may determine you are not qualified for charity care. If your provider does not offer charity care, please provide a letter or email from them indicating they do not offer charity care. Please provide their written response to your request/application, with your application for a Health Equity Fund grant.

What happens after I submit my application?

A Student Health Center representative will review your application and supporting documentation to ensure that you have provided the necessary information. They will check your University accounts to ensure there is no outstanding balance.

How long will it take before I receive the funds to pay my provider?

The Student Health Center representative will notify you if your application is complete, and will provide this information to the Financial Aid office for payment processing if approved. If you have an outstanding balance, or missing information/documentation, the representative will make you aware that they cannot process your application until your University account is paid in full, or you provide the required documentation.

Will I be taxed on this grant?

Assistance from the Health Equity Fund will be included on your 1098-T form. Included in the 1098-T form are qualified charges that were paid and financial assistance received for the corresponding tax year. Please consult with a tax professional for any tax related questions.

Who can I ask if I have any questions about this?

Please contact the Insurance Services office at the Student Health and Wellness Center for any questions about this benefit. They can be reached at insurance@shcs.ucdavis.edu