Extraordinary Educational Expenses

The U. S. Department of Education permits institutions of higher education to increase a student’s Cost of Attendance (COA) due to additional expenses or other related expenses not considered in the standard allowances included in the COA. The Office of Financial Aid will include these expenses for students upon request and according to our policy. Please access the following link for more information about Cost of Attendance: http://finaid.olemiss.edu/cost-of-attendance/. Below are examples of acceptable and unacceptable expenses.

Acceptable Expenses:

1. An allowance for **one-time** direct costs of **obtaining a first professional license or certificate** for students enrolled in a program that requires such professional licensure or certification. The cost must be incurred during a period of enrollment. This allowance may only be provided one time per student per eligible academic program (e.g., Praxis test fees, bar exam fees, etc.).

2. An allowance for expenses related to a **student’s disability** (e.g., special services, personal assistance, transportation, equipment/supplies, etc.).

3. An allowance for **expenses directly related to educational research** that is required for a degree program (the student must provide written verification from the instructor or dean of the academic department that this expense is required for the student’s program of study).

Unacceptable Expenses:

1. An allowance for **test/exam prep courses** (e.g., bar exam reviews, CPA exam reviews, etc.).

2. An allowance for **attending a professional conference**, even if you are presenting.

3. An allowance for **any component already included in your COA**.
Extraordinary Educational Expenses
2024-2025

This form is used to request an increase to your Cost of Attendance (COA) for additional educational expenses or other related expenses not considered in the standard allowances in the standard cost of attendance. **Any course related expense(s) must be for a class that counts towards your degree requirements.** Budgetary increases can be considered for the **current semester or term only** (fall, spring, or summer). You must submit a **separate request** for any subsequent term. Increasing your COA to include additional educational cost **does not guarantee** that you will have remaining eligibility available to increase the amount of financial aid offered to you for the academic year.

To be completed by student (please print):

________________________________________
STUDENT LAST NAME

________________________________________
STUDENT FIRST NAME

________________________
OLE MISS STUDENT NUMBER

Please indicate your student status:  ____Undergraduate/Pharmacy (EE 1-3/PY1)  ____Graduate/ Law/ Pharmacy (PY2-PY4)

Please provide the following documentation to substantiate your claim:

1. A written statement explaining why you feel your educational expense(s) are extraordinary.
2. Copies of receipts, or other official documents, for educational or other related expenses that you have incurred that are above and beyond the standard allowance in our Cost of Attendance.
3. Formal documentation from your instructor or dean, as appropriate.

I am requesting an increase in my Cost of Attendance (COA) in the amount of $______________ to cover additional educational expenses above those included in the standard COA for the following term (indicate the term for which you are requesting the increase in your COA—**select only one**):

_____ Fall 2024  _____ Spring 2025  _____ Summer 2025 (Summer is considered separate from Fall and/or Spring.)

Please indicate one of the following:

If approved, you will be awarded Federal Direct Student Loans up to your annual eligibility. If you are at your annual Federal Direct Student Loan max and intend to borrow a Direct PLUS Loan (Parent PLUS for dependent undergraduates or Graduate PLUS for graduates/professional students) you must indicate so by checking here:  

If you intend to borrow an alternative (private) loan for these additional expenses, please check here:  

If your scholarships have been previously reduced, you must indicate so by checking here:  

I certify that the information and documentation provided are complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that undocumented expenses will not be included.

________________________________________
Student Signature:  _________________________

(date)

(*actual wet signature, not a digital one)