MEDICAL EMERGENCY SCHOLARSHIP
IN THE S.J. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AT UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Goal:
The purpose of this fund is to aid graduate students in the College of Natural Resources and the Ecology Center facing financial hardships due to medical expenses that constitute close to or more than 25% of their annual income.

History:
The College of Natural Resources (now the Quinney College of Natural Resources) Emergency Medical fund was established by Tammy Wilson, a doctoral student in the Department of Wildland Resources at USU. In September 2005, Tammy was seriously injured while riding a bicycle. She broke her back and surgery was required to repair the injury. Many friends within the college began raising money to help pay her medical costs. However, Tammy was fortunate that her medical care was covered by Workers Compensation. The money raised ($3,725.48) was donated, establishing the Medical Emergency Fund. Since 2005, fundraising efforts, mainly through a yearly winter social allowed the fund to continue to grow. Students with outstanding medical debt that constitutes close to or more than 25% of their annual income are eligible for assistance from the fund.

Requirements:
1. Student recipients will be graduate students in good standing in the Quinney College of Natural Resources that are enrolled on USU’s Logan campus as well as students of the Ecology Center in good standing with their respective colleges and the Ecology Center.

2. A maximum of $6,000 per person will be awarded to cover medical expenses. Expenses may include, but are not exclusive to: physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychological counseling, transportation for treatment, housing during treatment or other expenses associated with complete recovery. Medical expenses incurred are defined broadly to include spouses, established domestic partnerships, and/or dependent children. Applications for amounts lower than $6000 (or less than 25% of their annual income) can be reviewed for eligibility on a case-by-case basis by the QCNR Graduate Student Council (GSC).

3. Potential recipients submit an application, detailing their medical and financial situation. Additional documents submitted should include receipts and medical bills, explanation of benefits from the insurance company and other documents the applicant considers important to explain the situation. An applicant can choose redact information regarding the specific condition from the application and the hospital/insurance bills submitted.
4. To be eligible, the reason for the medical expenses must be while enrolled as a student in QCNR or the EC. The application for this scholarship must be submitted within a year of the accident/diagnosis. A person is still eligible if he/she has graduated but all the above conditions have been met. However, the new income of the graduate can be taken into consideration by the committee. Medical expenses due to chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes) can be exempt from this eligibility rule and should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

5. Applications will be reviewed by a committee headed by the QCNR GSC President or Medical Liaison (representing the views of the whole council based on discussions from QCNR GSC meetings), the QCNR Associate Dean, and a representative of USU’s Student Health Services (SHS) as designated by the SHS director. All awards will be decided by group consensus. Variances for additional or debatable expenses will be determined on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the committee may decide to meet with applicants for further assessment.

6. Applications must be submitted in person to Katelyn Richins (see contact info below), in USU’s Student Health and Wellness Center

7. Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted. The maximum number of awards will depend on the funds available.

Contact Information:

**Taya Flores** *(For general questions about QCNR Emergency Medical Fund)*
*Email: taya.flores@usu.edu*
*Phone: (435) 797-1766*
*Office Location: Taggart Student Center (Juniper Lounge)*
*0174 Old Main Hill*
*Logan, Utah 84322*

**Katelyn Richins** *(USU Health Services)*
*Email: katelyn.richins@usu.edu*
*Phone: (435) 797-3505*
*Office Location: Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC) 112*
*850 East 1200 North*
*Logan, Utah 84322*

*This document will undergo a yearly review by the QCNR GSC Head and/or Medical Liaison to ensure that the fund is still meeting the needs of graduate students and that the descriptions and contact information are up-to-date.*