



Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund Criteria and Application

*The Student Success Fund assists Lake Michigan College students by providing immediate for students who are in need of emergency financial assistance. Students may submit an application and supporting documentation to the office of Financial Aid. Funds are distributed with an average range of \$50 to \$500. Applicants will be required to meet with a Financial Aid Specialist to discuss their application. Once the application checklist has been completed and supporting documentation provided the application packet is to be sent to the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA) for approval. The **maximum** Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund award is **\$500** per request. Lake Michigan College retains the right to determine the amount that each individual may receive. The number of students who can be served is subject to the availability of funds. The fund is sustained by continual contributions from the Winners Circle Scholarship Fund.*

Types of Expenses Covered

- Medications and other costs related to medical care
- General health physicals required for extra-curricular participation
- Student success resources
 - i.e. text books, computers, materials, uniforms, equipment, and other essential academic necessities
- Safety needs (i.e. changing a lock)
- Assistance with replacement of essential personal belongings due to fire, theft, or natural disaster.
- Unanticipated essential utilities replacement or repair (water, electric, heat)
- Unanticipated child care expense
- Essential Vehicle repair
- Tuition, fees, and housing

Types of Expenses Not Covered

- Non-essential utilities (cable, internet service)
- Household costs not related to damage or theft or natural disaster
- Parking tickets and other fines
- Costs for entertainment, recreation, non-emergency travel or other non-essential expenses
- Expenditures resulting from poor financial management
- Monthly utility bills, vehicle payments, insurance

Eligibility

To be considered for emergency funds, the student must first meet the following criteria:

- Student's request is **not** eligible for funding through the Ali Loan Fund.
- Must be a student in good standing as defined by Financial Aid at the beginning of the semester
- Class attendance record will be considered.
- Must have no other overdue debt to the College
- Must be enrolled for 6 or more credit hours at Lake Michigan College within the semester they apply for funds (*exception may apply)
- Demonstrate an immediate emergency that is documented, i.e., invoice, notice of utility turn-off
- Student can receive funding once per academic year with a lifetime cap of 2 disbursements.

Application Process

The application must be completed and signed with all required documentation. Applications should be submitted to the office of Financial Aid prior to submission to the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs. Processing can take up to eight (8) business days. The office of the Vice President of Student Affairs, will notify applicants via college e-mail or phone once a decision has been made. Checks should be picked up at the Business Office (cashier's window) at the

Benton Harbor Campus unless other previous arrangements have been made with other campus locations. If the student is using the funds for their books, the bookstore will be notified of the maximum amount of funds available. Once total charges are provided, the SSF will be applied for that amount only, unless otherwise noted on SSF application. Funds for tuition expenses will also be applied directly to the student's account.

Documentation

Documentation will be required for the following things:

- Purpose of the funds request, see examples below
 - If funds are to be used for books, submit cost estimate from the bookstore of the amount needed
 - If funds are to be used for vehicle repair, an estimate or receipt is required from a reputable repair shop
 - If funds are to be used for another purpose, provide most logical documentation. If you are unsure, see the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs for further guidance.

Lake Michigan College Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund
Application & Contract

Student Information (Please print neatly in pen)

Student Name (Print): _____ Phone Number: _____

Student ID Number: _____ or Date of Birth: _____

LMC email address: _____

A COPY OF THE APPROVED/DENIED APPLICATION WILL BE E-MAILED TO YOUR **LMC E-MAIL** ACCOUNT

Are you a Veteran - Yes or No

Are you an international student - Yes or No

Recommended by: _____ (LMC employee assisting student)

Fund Request: Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund Book Advance (bookstore)

Please briefly explain why funds are needed and what they are needed for: _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____ Semester/Term: _____ of Academic year: _____
(Cannot exceed \$500)

(Documentation to support your request is required; i.e. schedule bill and B&N book pricing or other estimates)

SELECT ONE

- I understand that I will reimburse the Program when my financial aid for this semester becomes available. At that time, I will give the Financial Aid Office permission to deduct, from my financial aid account, the amount of money owed as stated in this contract. Bookstore credit will be available the day after approval of this contract.
- I understand that I will reimburse the College from my personal funds by the end of the semester. Charge PO when purchasing books.
- I understand this is a Gift Scholarship on behalf of the Lake Michigan College Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund. Charge PO when purchasing books.

I hereby certify that all of the above information is complete and correct. I understand that this application will not be reviewed if all of the information is not provided. I have read and understand the terms outlined in the application.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Office Use Only

Approved _____ Denied _____

Vice President of Student Affairs (or Designee) Signature _____

Date _____

This is to acknowledge that the LMC Muhammad & Lonnie Ali Student Success Fund will purchase tuition/books and/or supplies in the amount totaling \$ _____ for the _____ term of 20 _____.

Original: VPSA

Copies: AR Coordinator; Director, Fin Aid; Foundation; Student

(Left blank intentionally for double-sided printing)

If you are unsure of the answers to the following questions, please have a conversation with the student to determine the answer. These questions are based on eligibility guidelines, and also include basic information that the recommending person should take into consideration before recommending a student for SSF/VEAF.

Please do not refer students to the office of Vice President of Student Affairs for “more information” about SSF/VEAF without reviewing these general guidelines for eligibility. Mentioning the fund should not be considered a way to appease a student or pass students off. Students often rely on this money as a certainty; if a student is denied after being told this was a viable option this may cause financial strain and added stress. Students’ applications should be accompanied by a staff referral. Often, the referring person knows more about the student and student’s background or has a better relationship with the student than the Office of Vice President of Student Affairs. Students caught in this loop between the Vice President of Student Affairs Office and the referring staff often feel frustrated, and sometimes embarrassed, so please consider this before sending a student to the Vice President of Student Affairs Office. The Vice President of Student Affairs Office reviews & approves the referral after it has been completed. If you have questions about the process, please contact the Vice President of Student Affairs Office directly rather than sending the student on your behalf. Thank you.

