

Omicron Zeta Alumni Foundation, Inc.
Scholarship and Grant Program

Purpose

The Omicron Zeta Alumni Foundation, Inc. (“OZAF”) aims to provide financial assistance and support for students at the University of Florida. Our focus is on professional development and financial support to help students achieve their academic and career goals.

Scholarships and Grants Offered

1. UF Educational Grant Program

Amount: \$100–\$500 per recipient

This program assists students in purchasing educational materials (i.e. textbooks, study guides, course materials, computers, software, etc.) essential for academic success.

2. Professional Development Grant Program

Amount: \$250–\$500 per recipient

Provides financial support for professional development activities, including:

- Graduate test fees (e.g., MCAT, LSAT)
- Registration fees for conferences, workshops, and seminars
- Travel and accommodations for professional events
- Professional Attire

3. Emergency Grant Program

Amount: Up to \$500 per recipient

This program provides aid to students experiencing unforeseen financial hardships that threaten their ability to continue their education.

Covered Emergencies include:

- Medical emergencies (unanticipated medical expenses not covered by insurance)
- Housing emergencies (risk of eviction or homelessness)
- Food insecurity (lack of access to necessary meals)
- Technology needs (emergency purchase or repair of academic tools)
- Transportation needs (emergency travel due to family crises or medical appointments)

Eligibility Criteria

To qualify for any of the grants, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled as a full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate student at the University of Florida.

- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 (undergraduate) or 3.0 (graduate).
- Submit a complete application by the specified deadline.

Grant-Specific Eligibility Criteria

Professional Development Grant: Applicants must demonstrate a clear professional development goal (e.g., attending a conference, obtaining certification).

Emergency Grant: Applicants must provide documentation of an unforeseen emergency (e.g., medical bills, eviction notice).

Application Process

Students must submit their application through the foundation's online portal. The application should include the following documents:

Required for all grants:

1. Proof of enrollment (e.g., class schedule or letter of admission)
2. Most recent academic transcript

For the UF Educational Grant:

1. List of textbooks, educational materials and/or software, including estimated costs
2. Personal statement (500 words max) explaining how the grant will aid academic success

For the Professional Development Grant:

1. Budget breakdown of professional development-related expenses
2. Personal statement (500 words max) explaining the importance of the professional opportunity and why financial assistance is needed
3. One letter of recommendation from a faculty member or employer

For the Emergency Grant:

1. Documentation of the emergency (e.g., medical bills, eviction notice)
2. A 250-word written explanation of how the emergency has impacted studies.

Grant Details

UF Educational Grant

Amount: \$100–\$500 per recipient.

Funds may be provided as reimbursement to the recipient or a paid invoice on behalf of the recipient.

Reporting: Recipients must submit receipts within 30 days and a 250-word report on the grant's impact.

Professional Development Grant

Up to \$1,500 per student per academic year

Funds can be used for registration fees, travel, accommodations, professional attire, etc.

Reporting: Recipients must submit receipts within 30 days of the event and a 500-word reflection summary within 60 days.

Emergency Grant

Up to \$1,000 per student per academic year (available once per semester, no more than twice per academic year)

Funds can be used for medical, housing, food, or other critical needs.

Reporting: Funds must be used solely for emergency purposes, and recipients must submit documentation within 30 days.

Selection Process

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Demonstrated financial need
- Clarity and depth of personal statements
- Academic performance
- Supporting documentation

Final decisions will be made by the OZAF grant committee and communicated within 10 business days. Urgent cases may be expedited.

Application Deadlines

Applications for the Fall semester are accepted on a rolling basis. The Spring application cycle opens on **August 1st** and applications must be submitted by **October 31st** for consideration.

Applications for the Spring semester are accepted on a rolling basis. The Spring application cycle opens on **January 1st** and applications must be submitted by **March 31st** for consideration.

Applications for the Summer semester are accepted on a rolling basis. The Summer application cycle opens on **June 1st** and applications must be submitted by **June 30th** for consideration.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

General Provisions

- OZAF reserves the right to adjust the grant amounts depending on the availability of funds.

- If a recipient drops or withdraws from a course covered by a grant, they must return any unused portion of the funds.
- All decisions made by the grant selection committee are final.

**Omicron Zeta Alumni Foundation, Inc.
Scholarship and Grant Program Application Form**

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____
Student ID: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
University of Florida Enrollment Status:
☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time
Current GPA: _____

Grant Selection

- ☐ UF Educational Grant
- ☐ Professional Development Grant
- ☐ Emergency Grant

Required Documents

For all grants:

- ☐ Proof of enrollment (class schedule or letter of admission)
- ☐ Most recent academic transcript

For UF Educational Grant:

- ☐ List of textbooks, educational materials and/or software and estimated costs
- ☐ Personal statement (max. 500 words) explaining how the grant will aid academic success

For Professional Development Grant:

- ☐ Budget breakdown of professional development-related expenses
- ☐ Personal statement (max. 500 words) explaining the importance of the opportunity and financial need
- ☐ One letter of recommendation from a faculty member or employer

For Emergency Grant:

- ☐ Documentation of the emergency (e.g., medical bills, eviction notice)
- ☐ A 250-word written explanation of how the emergency has impacted studies

Certification and Agreement

By signing this application, I certify that the information provided is accurate and complete. I understand that misuse of funds may result in a requirement to return the funds and/or disciplinary action.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Submission Instructions

Submit your completed application and supporting documents via the foundation's online portal by:

- **Fall Semester Deadline:** October 31st
- **Spring Semester Deadline:** March 31st
- **Summer Deadline:** June 30th

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants will be notified of the decision within **10 business days**.

For questions, please contact **Omicron Zeta Alumni Foundation, Inc.** at OZalumni1973@gmail.com.