

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Atlas Student Relief Fund

What is the Atlas Student Relief Fund? The Atlas Student Relief Fund is designed to provide short-term assistance to students experiencing severe financial need due to unexpected and unavoidable emergencies. The Atlas Student Relief Fund is administered by the Tulsa Community Foundation, an organization specializing in creating emergency assistance and disaster relief funds. Outside of the initial student enrollment verification process, applications are confidential and identifying application details are never shared with Atlas School staff.

Who can apply to the Atlas Student Relief Fund? Current Atlas School students are eligible to apply for assistance. Eligible applicants may receive a maximum of one grant per category per calendar year.

What types of qualifying events are included?

Emergency or Disaster Type	Description	Available grant amount
Home Catastrophe / Natural Disaster	Assistance after a natural or localized disaster has destroyed the employee's personal residence, rendered it unlivable or it is otherwise in need of costly repairs, in excess of insurance, after the disaster (hurricane, fire, flood, tornado, mudslide, etc.).	Up to \$6,000
Funeral or Emergency Travel for Immediate Family	Assistance for those who have incurred the loss of an immediate family member (spouse, employee's or spouse's children, employee's or spouse's parents, or other legal dependent), if the employee is financially responsible for funeral arrangements and no other resources exist. For students who must travel to visit or care for a terminally ill immediate family member or escort a critically ill immediate family member to an out-of-state medical facility.	Up to \$6,000
Medical Emergency	For students who have encountered financial hardships due to medical emergencies in the household (injury, hospitalization, loss of household income during medical emergency, etc.).	Up to \$6,000
Personal Emergency	For students who have encountered financial hardships for unexpected, unavoidable reasons beyond their control (spouse's layoff, unexpected loss of household income, non-routine vehicle or home repair that restricts ability of applicant to care for self and household, etc.).	Up to \$3,000

How is the grant awarded to students? In general, grants are paid directly to vendors (e.g., utility companies, home repair companies, etc.) on behalf of students. Since TCF sends payments directly to vendors, students are strongly encouraged to contact TCF prior to paying an invoice. If a student must pay the expense immediately (e.g. hotel), they are encouraged to use a credit card and submit the receipt to TCF for reimbursement. The reimbursement will then be sent directly to the student's credit card provider.

What information will students need to provide? Students seeking assistance will work with a program manager at TCF to qualify their need. They will be asked to provide documentation demonstrating an unexpected expense such as copies of the bills for which they are requesting payment. Students will not be asked to provide bank account statements or savings statements.

How can I apply for the Atlas Student Relief Fund? Click here (or go to https://tulsacf.org/atlasrelief/) to begin your application.

Is my application information confidential? Yes. Outside of the initial student enrollment verification process, all applications are confidential and no identifying details submitted to TCF are shared with Atlas School staff. Atlas School staff will <u>not</u> be provided with names of students who have received a disaster relief grant.

Are disaster relief grants considered taxable benefits? TCF disaster relief grants are not considered taxable income in the United States and Puerto Rico.