

Gaston College Student Emergency Assistance Program

The Student Emergency Assistance Program (SEAP) provides up to \$200 in assistance (tuition, books, or academic supplies) for an immediate academic need deterring your success at Gaston College (GC). The program is funded by the Gaston College Foundation through contributions made by community members, faculty, and staff who have designated their gift be used for student support. Students are eligible to receive SEAP funding only once per academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters). Students' academic records, including Grade Point Averages (GPA's) from Gaston College or other colleges or universities, are evaluated as a part of the approval process.

To Qualify for the SEAP You Must...

- Have an account balance to Gaston College of \$500 or less.
- Be a currently-enrolled, full or part-time Gaston College student in a degree or curriculum program (Basic Skills students, Continuing Education students who receive tuition waivers, and Career and College Promise students are not eligible).
- Be requesting assistance for the current academic semester (applications requesting assistance for the subsequent semester will not be reviewed until the first day of class).
- Complete a FAFSA application for the current academic year (call the Financial Aid office at 704-922-6227 with questions).
- Note: after receiving the funds, you must write a letter of appreciation to the Gaston College Foundation.

SEAP Funds Can Be Used For...

- **Tuition assistance:** your account balance to Gaston College must be \$500 or less for your application to be approved; if approved, payment will be applied directly to your outstanding balance.
- **Book assistance:** your account balance to Gaston College must be \$500 or less, and you must provide an itemized list from the GC Bookstore for the cost of all requested books including taxes; if approved, you will receive a voucher to the GC Bookstore that must be used on the same business day that you pick it up from the GC Business Office and must be picked up 7-10 days after approval.
- **Academic supplies assistance:** your account balance to Gaston College must be \$500 or less, and you must provide an itemized cost list for the needed supplies, such as drug tests, immunizations, certification exams, uniforms, shoes, and tools; if approved, a check/voucher for the appropriate amount will be made out to the business/organization listed.

SEAP Cannot Be Used For...

- Tuition assistance, book assistance, or academic supplies if your account balance is more than \$500.
- Repayment (paying back money owed to Gaston College, including failure to attend classes).
- Certification exams for classes completed outside of Gaston College.
- Life expenses, such as rent, mortgage, utilities, transportation, gas, car repairs, or daycare.
- Reimbursement for expenses already incurred.
- Visiting students who take Gaston College courses for credit at other institutions.

SEAP and Financial Aid Information

- SEAP is not affiliated with financial aid sources, including Pell, WIOA, TAA, scholarships, and grants.
- You may apply for the SEAP if financial aid did not cover your entire tuition, book, and academic supplies expenses.
- You may apply for the SEAP if you applied for, but did not receive, financial aid assistance.

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SEAP Application Check List

- Completed application signed by the student
- Essay (2 to 3 paragraphs) explaining your need for the funds, including how the assistance will help you succeed in your course(s) and information about any other financial aid and assistance you receive
- Itemized cost of requested assistance:
 - Tuition Assistance: tuition bill or account balance document
 - Book Assistance: Course syllabus listing course requirement and cost list from the Gaston College Bookstore
 - Academic Supplies: Course syllabus listing requirement and cost for supplies, immunizations, fingerprints, etc.
- Any documentation that supports your need for emergency assistance
- Copy of your current financial aid award letter or confirmation of your FAFSA submission
- Signed release/consent for appreciation letter form

You must provide all requested documentation before your application will be reviewed. After submitting your application, you can expect to hear from a SEAP staff member within a week regarding the status of your application.

**Return completed application to
Craig Arts and Science Building (CAS), Room 222
Fax to 704-922-8738 or email to sharpe.sherry@gaston.edu**

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Gaston College SEAP Application

Student Name _____ **ID Number** _____
Last First Middle Initial

GC Email Address _____ **Phone #** _____

Mailing Address _____
Street Address/PO Box

City, State, Zip Code

What type of assistance are you requesting?

Tuition Assistance

Amount: _____

Account Balance: _____

Book Assistance

Amount: _____

Course(s): _____

Academic Supplies

Amount: _____

Course(s): _____

Have you applied for SEAP in the past? _____

If so, list the semester and amount received. _____

Did you complete a FAFSA? _____

Did you receive financial assistance? _____ **List the sources and amount:** _____

Did you apply for scholarships? _____ **How much are you receiving?** _____

Employer _____ **Salary/Hourly Wage** _____

I am a currently enrolled Gaston College student in good standing in my course(s) with outstanding academic expenses. I am committed to persisting and completing my educational goals at Gaston College. If awarded funds through the Student Emergency Assistance Program, I will write a letter of appreciation to the Gaston College Foundation stating how the funds were used, so contributors to the fund will understand its importance.

Student Signature

Date

