



2017-2018 Budget Adjustment Request Informational Sheet

What is a Budget Adjustment?

When students and/or their families experience a change in circumstances. Such as an increase in mandatory or non-discretionary expenses, the cost of attendance established by the Office of Financial Aid may no longer reflect the student's actual costs. The Office of Financial Aid may, in some cases, adjust the cost of attendance based on those expenses. **Adjustment to the cost of attendance do not guarantee additional financial aid in the form of grants or scholarships. Most adjustments are funded with "self-help" aid in the form of loans.**

What Adjustments May be Considered?

Adjustments may be considered for increase of the following types of mandatory or non-discretionary student paid expense during the academic year:

- Medical/dental/disability expenses paid by the student during the academic year
- Additional educational expenses
- Additional transportation expenses for commuting cost or car repairs
- Housing and Utilities expenses
- Childcare expenses
- Relocation expenses
- Other miscellaneous expenses on a case by case basis

What Adjustments CANNOT be Considered?

- Prior year expenses
- Credit card and other consumer debts
- Wardrobe expenses for professional attire for job interviews, class, etc.
- Cost incurred outside of the academic year, unless it is a computer purchased in the summer for the Fall quarter
- Legal fees, bail, traffic or parking tickets/fines
- Pet care, unless the pet is a registered service animal
- Luxury items such as premium cable, cell phone, land lines, Car Insurance, etc.
- Loan Repayment

How do I Request a Budget Adjustment?

1. Complete the 2017-2018 Budget Adjustment Request Form.
2. Provide required supporting documentation to the Office of Financial Aid.

What Happens Next?

Your request will be evaluated after the Budget Adjustment Request Form and all supporting documentation have been reviewed. It can take up to a week for this process to be completed. If more information is needed to complete your request, the Office of Financial Aid will contact you. This could result in a delay in processing your request.

Will I get More Aid?

Increasing your budget does not increase your Federal Aid Eligibility. The maximums are set by the Federal Government. However, additional aid options may come in the form of a PLUS Loan or a private loan.

More Questions?

For more information, please contact Laura in the Office of Financial aid by calling (505) 467 6811 or email lauraaguilar@swc.edu.