



Oregon State University

**Human Services
Resource Center**

Food Assistance Application Questions

1. Welcome Message | Information Verification Notice | How did you hear about this application?

2. **DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Contact information: Name, ID#, phone number, and email address (email auto captured)
- Enrollment status: campus designation, online, international
- Class standing: first-year, sophomore, junior, senior, graduate, other
- Student type: dual-enrolled, transfer, first-generation, former-foster youth, student athlete, student parent, veteran, etc
- Graduation status: graduating within next 12 months
- Employment status: OSU employee specific
- Current city: city and zip code
- Current living situation: rental, off-campus; residence hall; family housing; greek house; owned home; etc
- Living arrangement: alone, roommates, friends, spouse/partner, child/children, sibling, parents, extended family
- Special Dietary Needs: none, kosher, halal, celiac disease, gluten-free other, lactose intolerant, vegetarian, vegan
- Age of applicant
- Dependents: yes, no, maybe

3. **STUDENT WITH DEPENDENT STATUS**

- How many children do you have?
- Are any of your children under the age of 6?
- Are you receiving support from the Family Resource Center Child Care Assistance Fund?
- Undergraduate or Graduate student
- Residency: Oregon in-state, out-of-state, international student

4. **STUDENT STATUS**

- Undergraduate or Graduate student
- Residency: Oregon in-state, Out-of-state, international student

5. **FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES : “Tell us how you pay your bills”**

- How much support does your family provide?
- How much support does OSU financial aid provide?
- How much support does scholarship(s) provide?
- How much support does a graduate assistantship provide? (graduate students only)
- How much support does a foreign government provide? (international students only)
- How much of your bills remain for you to pay with savings, a job, or other sources of income?

For each support type provided, please select All, Most, Some, or None for the following areas:

Tuition and fees | Textbooks and course materials | Rent | Utilities and phone | Groceries and food

Child care support | Health insurance and/or medical expenses | Car, car insurance or commuting/travel expenses

6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

To what extent do you agree with these statements: [All, some, a little, not at all, not applicable]

- I was surprised by how expensive it is to live in Corvallis
- I was surprised by how expensive it costs to be an OSU student
- I was surprised by how expensive it costs to pay for child care
- I was surprised by how expensive textbooks and other course materials cost.
- I was surprised by how expensive access codes and other electronic course materials cost.

Do any of these situations apply to you? [check all that apply]

- I lost eligibility for my graduate assistantship or graduate fellowship.
- I lost my eligibility for Pell grants or other federal financial aid
- The support I got from a private scholarship dropped unexpectedly
- The state or federal benefits I or my family relied on were negatively impacted when I become a student
- The most recent FAFSA I completed does not reflect the current financial situation of me or my family
- A recent medical crisis has limited the financial resources of me or my family
- One or both of my parents have had a dramatic drop or loss of income (unemployment or job change)
- One or both of my parents has experienced homelessness in the past 12 months
- I have experienced homelessness in the past 12 months
- I was receiving SNAP before my benefits ended

Do you rely on campus and regional public transportation?

7. SNAP SCREENING

- Have you or your family ever received SNAP benefits?
- Have you or your family ever been helped by any of these federal or state benefits or support programs?
- In the past 12 months have you received SNAP benefits?
- If you recently applied for SNAP, but were not accepted for SNAP benefits, please explain more below:
- How many credits are you enrolled in this term?
- Do you receive work study?
- On average, how many hours per week do you work? - calculated using hours for last week/this week/next week
- Do you have a (physical or mental) health condition that prevents you as a student from working 20+hrs/week?
- Do you rely on campus and regional public transportation

8. FINANCIAL CONCERNS: "Please tell us more about your financial situation":

- Did you seriously consider not attending college because of financial concerns?
- Did you seriously consider not attending OSU because of financial concerns?
- Have you seriously considered abandoning your studies at OSU because of financial difficulties?
- Once you account for all your school and living expenses, at the end of the month do you usually have:
some money left over, just enough to make ends meet, not enough money to make ends meet
- If you had an unexpected emergency and needed \$2,000 - how easily could you get it within a week?
- If you had an unexpected emergency and needed \$500 - how easily could you get it within a week?
- Optional: do you have credit card debt in your name? If so, how much? (select one)
- Optional: do you have medical debt in your name? If so, how much? (select one)
- Are you taking out student loans?
- Tell us more about your student loan experience/thoughts:
 - Loans are a necessary part of getting my college education
 - I do everything I can to avoid taking out student loans, or taking out more student loans.
 - I am willing to take out subsidized loans but not unsubsidized loans
 - I don't know the difference between subsidized and unsubsidized loans
 - I have student loans from a bank or credit union
 - My family has cosigned for my student loans
 - None of the above
- Optional: do you have private student loan debt and/or private loans you use to pay for school?
- Do you expect to start paying back your student loans in the next 12 months?
- How do you feel about repaying your student loans?
- Optional: how much total debt do you expect to graduate with?

10. HEALTH INSURANCE

- Please answer this question about your health insurance:
 - I am currently without health insurance
 - I have health insurance but expenses make it difficult/expensive for me to take care of my health needs
 - I have health insurance
 - Prefer not to answer

11. FOOD AND GROCERIES

How much do these factors impact your access to food? Answer not at all, some, very much for the following:

- Not enough money in my budget to begin with.
- Shopping on a budget is challenging
- Not enough time to spend cooking and preparing meals.
- I don't know much about how to cook or prepare meals.
- The size or condition or location of my kitchen makes storing or cooking food challenging.
- It's challenging to cook food that everyone in my household will eat.
- Food allergies or dietary restrictions make meal preparations and planning challenging.

For the following, answer - Often true, sometimes true, never true, or I don't know - In the past 12 months.... and have you experienced this in the past month?

- I worried whether my food would run out before I got money to buy more.
- The food that I bought just didn't last, and I didn't have money to get more.
- I could not afford to eat balanced meals.

For the following, answer - Yes, no, I don't know - In the past 12 months.... Have you experienced this in the past month?

- Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?
- If yes, how often do you have to cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there isn't enough money for food?
- Did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Did you ever cut the size of your meal or skip a meal to feed your children?
- Did you lose weight because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Did you ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

11. OTHER FOOD AND GROCERIES

- Do you seek out events and activities on campus that provide free food to save money?
- Does your family help your budget go further by sharing groceries, prepared meals, or leftovers with you?
- Do you eat cheap, low-cost convenience meals to save money?
- Do you eat cheap, low-cost convenience meals to avoid feeling hungry?
- Have you used the HSRC Food Pantry in the past 12 months to feed yourself or your family?
- Have you used other food pantries in the past 12 months to feed yourself or your family?
- Do you feel pressure to hide how stressed you are about affording food from family and those who care about you?
- Do you avoid social activities with friends or classmates because you can't afford to go out with them?
- Do your closest friends know and understand your financial situation?

12. UNIVERSITY HOUSING & DINING SERVICES - DINING PLAN

- Do you have a UHDS Dining Plan? No; or Yes, I have Plan __, \$___ per term
- Tell us more about your dining plan usage:
 - Do you know about the Make Cents Meals in the UHDS Dining Centers?
 - How many meals per week do you usually buy with your UHDS Dining Plan?
 - How many meals per week do you usually buy out of pocket, eat off campus, prepare your meals, etc.?
 - Do you skip meals to make your meal plan dollars last?
 - Do you usually run out of dining plan dollars before the end of the term?
 - Do you share your dining plan dollars with friends or family members to help them afford to eat?

13. HOUSING

In the past 12 months....

- Have you moved in with other family (not your immediate family) even for a little while due to financial problems?
- Have you been told to leave your home by someone else in the household because of their financial problems?
- Have you lived in housing that feels substandard or unsafe because it was what you could afford?
- Have you couch-surfed because of financial problems?
- Have you been evicted from your home or apartment for not paying the rent or mortgage?
- Have you not paid the full amount of the rent or mortgage payment or did not pay on time?
- Have you not paid the full amount of the gas, oil, or electricity bill?
- Have you stayed at a hotel, motel, or campground because of financial problems?
- Have you slept in a vehicle, tent, abandoned building or other non-housing shelter because of financial problems?
- Have you stayed at a homeless shelter?
- Have you not known where you were going to sleep at night, even for one night?

14. TEXTBOOKS

Do you have easy, convenient access to a computer at home (or a laptop) that meets MOST of your educational needs?

Do you have a personal smartphone for daily use?

How does the cost of textbooks and course materials impact your financial situation? Check all that apply.

- Each term, I buy all the required textbooks.
- I can only afford to buy some of my textbooks each term
- To save money, I share textbooks from my friends or make copies from a classmate's copy
- I have asked my instructor or professors if they have a copy of the book I can borrow
- I usually check the library to see if I can save money on textbooks by borrowing a copy
- My grade in a class has suffered because I couldn't afford to buy a textbook at the start of the term
- I have used the HSRC Textbook Lending Program to borrow textbooks for free
- I've made do with an earlier edition of a textbook, or other old book different than what the instructor asked for
- I delay buying textbooks as far into the term as possible
- I check multiple places (online and/or in person) to purchase my textbooks at best prices
- None of the above
- I try to choose classes that have free/open access textbooks

Are you familiar with the HSRC Textbook Lending Program?

15. MISCELLANEOUS

Think of times when school is not in session (Winter and Spring Breaks, maybe summer session).

Check which statements are true for you, all that apply.

- I return to stay with my parents/family
- I seek work to make money to pay for expenses
- I stay with friends or couch-surf
- I do not return to live with my parents/family
- I seek a job that provides housing and/or food over the summer
- My parents/family have no room for me or they cannot afford for me to stay with them
- My parents expect me to take care of myself and provide for myself
- I work and send money to my family to help support them
- I try to get unpaid internships in my field
- I try to get paid internships in my field
- It's better for me (and/or my family) to get a job and make money than to get an unpaid internship
- None of these apply to me

16. **BARRIERS DUE TO INADEQUATE FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

What other barriers do you face due to a lack of adequate financial resources?

- I feel isolated because of financial pressure
- Financial pressure and stress impacts my mental wellness and health
- Financial pressure and stress impacts my parenting or family relationships
- I am unable to purchase or rent textbooks or equipment that are required in all my classes.
- I have delayed taking classes required for graduation because of high course fees or required expensive course materials
- I have to work two jobs
- I have to work three jobs
- I have had to take classes part-time so I can work more hours and make more money
- There are not enough on-campus or campus-convenient jobs that provide a living wage
- I have delayed medical or dental appointments for myself or my family
- I have had to delay, stop or not pursue mental health treatment, counseling or therapy for myself or my family.
- I have had to attend class or go to work sick because I cannot fall behind in classes or lose income.
- I am unable to take unpaid internships in my career field because I need income from paying employment.
- I am unable to take unpaid internships in my career field because I cannot afford child care.
- I cannot attend conferences or professional development because I cannot afford child or dependent care while I am away.
- I feel a sense of obligation or guilt to support my friends or family with more money than I'm able.

17. **OPEN RESPONSE** - What else do you want to tell us to explain your food insecurity or financial pressures?

18. **HSRC MEALBUX ASSISTANCE**

- Have you ever received Mealbux before?
- In what ways has Mealbux program helped you?
 - Helped me eat on campus
 - Helped me avoid going to class hungry
 - I need all the financial help I can get
 - Helped me save time by being able to grab food on campus quickly
 - Helped me fit in with my friends or a study group
 - Helped me re-allocate money to other parts of my budget
 - Free money is always helpful
- In "demographics section", if student selected other campus location or is an online student, they will receive this message and then exit the application: *OSU Cascades and E-campus students are not eligible for this program. If you believe that you've gotten to this page in error, please select the back button (at the bottom of this page).*

19. **Information Verification & Authorization**

I certify that that all application information and my statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. As a part of the Food Assistance application process, I authorize the Human Services Resource Center to share my name and student ID number with other OSU offices, including but not limited to the Office of Financial Aid and in turn for the Office of Financial Aid to release financial aid information to the Human Services Resource Center for consideration of my food assistance application.

Can we anonymously include your answers when we report about the various ways financial stress is impacting OSU students?