

# Student Emergency Fund

## Providing Urgent Financial Support

### Helping Students and Residents in Short-Term Economic Crisis

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is proud to develop leaders who will shape the future of health care and is committed to providing a supportive environment that fosters academic and professional success.

Stress for residents and medical and dental students is well documented. In response to this, the School offers a variety of tailored support services through its Learner Equity and Wellness (LEW) Office. By providing group wellness sessions and individual counselling, the LEW unit helps students and residents cope with a variety of issues including academic struggles, time management challenges, mental health concerns and difficult or emotional patient interactions.

**Increasingly, our counsellors are seeing students and residents who are facing overwhelming financial pressures.** This additional stress, combined with the other more common challenges can sometimes threaten a student or resident's ability to complete their education or become detrimental to their mental and physical health.

### The Student Emergency Fund

In order to provide meaningful support to students and residents in extreme financial crisis, we are asking our alumni and friends to partner with us to establish a fund that can be used to distribute short-term loans in emergency situations.

**The Student Emergency Fund** will help students bridge short-term gaps in their finances, and ensure they can continue to move forward in their studies, training and medical careers.

#### Terms of the Fund

Upon review of each case, a loan will be given under the following terms:

- The circumstances are such that it is an emergency situation, where all other sources of revenue, such as banks and student loan programs are no longer viable options;
- The funds are given as an interest-free, short term loan, with the understanding that the money will be paid back;
- Representatives from the Learner Equity and Wellness Unit will be in regular contact with the applicant to regularly monitor the progress of the client's ability to repay the loan.



“We are seeing students who are experiencing increasing amounts of debt and anxiety. Sometimes, a loan from the Emergency Fund means a resident will be able to cover the costs of writing their licensing exams. For others it might help make ends meet so they can support their families.”

-Pamela Bere,  
*Manager/Counsellor, Learner  
Equity and Wellness*

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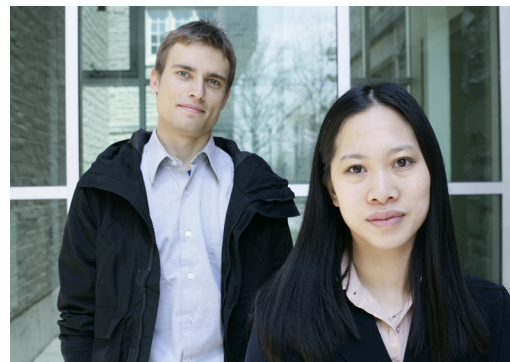
## Impact of Your Gift

### An Extraordinary Way to Help Tomorrow's Leaders Today

A Gift in support of the Student Emergency Fund is a significant way for alumni and friends to:

- Directly impact a student's or resident's life by providing tangible support when they need it most;
- Demonstrate and reinforce the School's core value of providing compassionate care;
- Actively invest in the next generation of medical professionals;
- Make a lasting impression that could potentially inspire those who benefited from the generosity of alumni to in turn help future students.

**Thank you** for your consideration.



### Learner Equity and Wellness

The Student Emergency Fund will be managed by the Learner Equity and Wellness (LEW) Office, located at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

The LEW team serves students and residents enrolled in undergraduate and postgraduate programs in Medicine & Dentistry.

#### Services include:

- Personal counselling
- Discussion of problems
- Career planning
- Requests for accommodation

Students may refer themselves or concerned faculty may also contact the office to request assistance in supporting a learner with identified issues related to mental health, wellbeing, financial distress, professionalism and/or academic difficulties.

The LEW Office also supports the broader learner community through its membership and affiliation with Learner Councils which address issues affecting a class or group of learners.