

2026-27 Cost of Attendance Budget Appeal

The standard financial aid indirect cost of attendance (COA) budget represents an estimate of average indirect educational expenses associated with attendance at SAIC; such as off-campus room & board, personal, books/supplies, and transportation. Your standard indirect budget is also the estimated average and reasonable cost of completing an academic year at SAIC and serves as the foundation for determining your financial need as well as the amount of qualified aid that can be offered to you including loans. SAIC's standard cost of attendance figures are established through student surveys and other research.

If you feel that the estimated standard indirect COA budget does not accurately reflect your educational expenses, you can use this form to request an adjustment to your indirect COA. The Office of Student Financial Services (SFS) may be able to increase your standard indirect budget if you have documented allowable expenses that you are incurring during the academic year that are higher than the standard indirect COA budget.

Please note an approved COA budget increase does not guarantee additional federal loan eligibility.

Student's Last Name (Print)	Student's First Name	Student's MI
Student's Email	Student's ID#	

Student Type (choose one): Undergraduate Graduate

Before submitting this form, carefully review your [current COA*](#) in Self-Service. Expenses not directly related to your education will not be considered. To request a COA adjustment, please complete the sections below and submit your appeal documents using [ShareFile](#). ShareFile is SAIC's electronic document submission option to safely and securely submit documents to the Student Financial Services Office.

Note: Please do not use ShareFile to submit documentation for other SAIC offices. If you have documents with sensitive information, please do not email or mail them. If you are in Chicago, you may choose to personally come into our office at 36 South Wabash, Suite 1200, to drop off your supporting documents.

NOTE: No action will be taken without full documentation.

**How to find your COA in Self-Service:*

Self-Service View Financial Aid > "click" the Aid Year (in blue) > Financial Aid Summary > "click" the Estimated Financial Aid Budget Figure (in blue)

We **cannot** process a COA increase for:

- Credit card/consumer debt
- Entertainment or other personal-choice expenses
- Automobile purchase/payments
- Living expenses not directly associated with your education

Expense	Expense Frequency	Expense Amount
Students share of off-campus rent (room)	Provide Monthly Expense	\$
Students share of utilities (room)	Provide Monthly Expense	\$
Food expenses (board)	Provide Monthly Expense	\$
Books/Supplies - <small>Please Document using the Educational Supplies Expenses Form provided by SFS</small>	Provide Expense Total	\$
Necessary medical/dental expense (<u>not</u> covered by insurance) - <small>Please Document using the Medical/Dental Documentation Form provided by SFS</small>	Provide Expense Total	\$
Other (<i>provide details on separate sheet</i>)		\$

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the information on this form is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if my situation above changes, I must notify the Office of Student Financial Services immediately.

Student Signature	Date	Parent/Spouse Signature (if applicable)	Date
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Budget Appeal Required Documents

NOTE: No action will be taken without full documentation.

Expense	Documentation Required
Student share of off-campus rent	Copy of a signed lease for the academic year showing your monthly rental expense. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If rent is shared with other occupants, provide documentation of your share.
Student share of utilities	Copy of your most current monthly bill(s) for all utility(s) that you are appealing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If utilities are shared with other occupants, provide documentation of your share. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural Gas ○ Electricity ○ Cell Phone ○ Internet
Food expenses	Provide a personal statement of monthly food expense.
Books/Supplies	Please complete the <i>Budget Appeal - Educational Supplies Expenses Form</i> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to attach a copy of your documentation/receipts to this form.
Necessary Medical/Dental Expense (<u>not</u> covered by insurance)	Please complete the <i>Budget Appeal – Medical/Dental Documentation Form</i> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide copies of invoice(s) that states your cost for necessary Medical/Dental Expense after any cost covered by insurance provider.
Other	Documentation as directed by the Budget Appeal Committee.