



A CASE FOR THE GATOR PLEDGE

In the 62 years that Green River College has been educating students, one of the most important lessons learned is that students need more than tuition and books to be successful in school. Stable housing, food, bills paid, time to study and the right frame of mind are all essential for students to learn and achieve.

When students encounter an unexpected hurdle, it can cause a ripple effect throughout their lives, causing them to pause their education or drop out of school altogether. Green River College Foundation is committed to helping to remove financial barriers for students through the Gator Pledge Emergency Fund.

WHAT IS GATOR PLEDGE?

The Green River College Foundation started the Gator Pledge Emergency Fund as a small program in 2009. During that first year, the fund assisted 23 students. Today that support has evolved into a campus-wide collaborative effort utilized by thousands of students over the past several years.

In that time, Green River College also partnered with The Hope Center to assess student basic needs, to get a true sense of what students are dealing with while attending college. That survey revealed that 57% students have not had their basic needs met, including 41% that have been food insecure in the last six months.

Currently the Foundation budgets \$25K annually in Gator Pledge emergency support funds and relies on grants and partnerships to fill the gap, however, we know these grants are not guaranteed for the future.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Green River College Foundation has undergone a \$1 Million campaign to establish an endowed fund which will help students in perpetuity. Currently we are \$20,000 away from our goal to fully fund The Gator Pledge Endowment. Your gift today of any amount will help us reach our goal!

Once the Gator Pledge Endowment is fully funded, there will be \$50,000 each year to directly help students with unforeseen emergencies that could cause them to drop out of school.

WE KNOW IT WORKS!

Gator Pledge is a proven method that helps students overcome financial obstacles and continue towards making their educational dreams a reality.

Approximately 86% of students complete the quarter in which they received Gator Pledge funding, and approximately 82% of students who received funding go on to enroll in subsequent quarters.

Your gift today will help ensure that we can continue to assist students in a time of need, and keep them on the path to successfully completing their education.

Thank you for joining us in completing the Gator Pledge Endowment, ensuring we can assist students now and in the future.

"When my transmission went out, I had no idea how I'd afford the repairs after just paying rent and tuition. Gator Pledge helped me pay the bill so I could make it to school and work without having to drop a class. Getting the emergency funds was a huge weight off my shoulders and made it possible for me to stay focused on my studies."

- Taryn, GRC Student