

FOOD ASSISTANCE:

Food pantries are designated locations (typically in churches) which regularly offer free groceries to people in need. There are many food pantries in town.

- For a comprehensive list of food pantries and opening hours: <https://eifoodbank.org/help/champaign.html>
- **Wesley Food Pantry** is the food pantry on campus, located in the Wesley Student Center at 1203 W. Green St., Urbana. Due to COVID-19, all distributions are drive through. Walk ups welcome. Check out their website for the most up-to-date information on dates and times the food pantry is open: <https://www.wesleypantry.org>

Community Dinners - Several religious organizations in town offer free community dinners where all members of the community are invited to come and enjoy dinner with others. Many times you can volunteer to help cook, set up, or clean up, but you can also just come for a meal if you'd like.

- **University Place Christian Church** - 403 S. Wright St., Champaign (on campus) providing to-go meal pick-up in their parking lot every Wednesday night from 6pm-7pm planned to resume in January. Keep an eye on the website for updates on the specific dates the dinner will begin, see here: <https://www.uniplace.org/communitydinner/>
- **Community United Church of Christ** - 805 S. Sixth St., Champaign hosts Jubilee Café, a weekly free home-cooked meal for college students and community members in need. Open Mondays from 5-6:30 pm. More information at: <http://community-ucc.org/jubilee-cafe/>

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

- **The Office of Student Financial Aid** has a list of funding and outside scholarship opportunities for international students: <http://osfa.illinois.edu/types-of-aid/international-students>
- **Scholarships** - Academic departments, colleges, and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions have a number of scholarships available to international students. Scholarship Database: <https://secure.osfa.illinois.edu/scholarship-database/index.aspx> Additional resources: <https://admissions.illinois.edu/Invest/scholarships-all>
- **National and International Scholarships Program** | <http://www.topscholars.illinois.edu/node/65>
- **Websites with multiple Scholarship Sources for International Students** | <https://www.nafsa.org/about/about-international-education/financial-aid-undergraduate-international-students>
- **Your Home Country Embassy or Consulate** - Contact your country's consulate or embassy in the U.S. to find out if they are aware of any scholarship opportunities for students from your home country to study in the U.S. Most consulates have an educational sector which will be aware of scholarship opportunities as they arise.
- **International Student Loan Companies** - Some companies specialize in providing loans to F-1 international students. You will need to do your own research, but there are several companies offering educational loans to international students studying in the US. Some require a U.S. citizen co-signer.

CAUTION: The decision to use public benefits, even those exempt from public charge consideration, should not be made without reasoned thought to the possible consequences. For instance, at the time of visa application, nonimmigrant students and their dependents must demonstrate that they have adequate funds to support themselves during their stay in the United States. A family that used public funds for prenatal care and delivery, for instance, might find it more difficult or even impossible to renew their U.S. entry visa while abroad. The above listed resources do not make you subject to public charge consideration.