

Address your appeal to your assigned Admissions Officer, if possible.

Express your enthusiasm for attending the college. Demonstrate your commitment to attending.

Show gratitude for current merit aid and provide a sincere and courteous request for award reconsideration.

Share new achievements, improvements in academic performance or other highlights of your character to bolster your request for an increased scholarship.

If applicable, share information about merit offers from similar colleges.

Offer to provide more information and show appreciation for their time and effort.

Example letter for Merit Aid Appeal

Dear Admissions Office,

My name is Gabriela Mejia, and I'm so excited that I've been accepted into Oberlin. Oberlin is my very top choice and receiving that admission email was thrilling beyond words. As I expressed in my application, writing and storytelling are integral to who I am, and I would love the opportunity to write at Oberlin. Just the other day, I spent time reading stories in The Oberlin Review and learning about the process of joining the editorial staff.

I'm also grateful to be offered the Oberlin Commitment Scholarship for the next four years. Unfortunately, the merit aid package the college extended to me includes an expected contribution that would be a hardship for my family given our current financial situation. I'd like to provide some updates on my academic and extra-curricular achievements. I ask if you would be kind enough to revisit our eligibility for additional scholarship aid.

Since I submitted my application to Oberlin in December, I've won regional Scholastic Silver Keys for my short story "Rivers, Montana" and my poem "Badlands Spirits." I also received an Honorable Mention for my essay "Why Think Globally." My senior year grades for Semester 1 been even stronger than the GPA I had when I applied. I earned 5 A's (including two honors classes) and 1 A-, resulting in a 3.95 senior year GPA. so far, unweighted. Since February, I've also been volunteering weekly at Greenspace, a hospital that rehabilitates wildlife and, when possible, returns the animals to their natural habitats.

I am fortunate to have received substantial merit scholarships from other colleges, including Bennington (\$40K/year John Dewey Merit Scholarship) and Clark (\$21K/year Jonas Clark Scholarship, plus a \$5K/year regional incentive grant). Oberlin is my first choice. A re-evaluation of my application for additional merit aid would make attending Oberlin within my family's reach.

Please let me know if I can submit more information. I'm excited to be a future Yeobie. Additional scholarship support would allow me make this happen. Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely, Gabriela Mejia