



**HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF  
CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE & RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT INFORMATION AND  
DISCLOSURE (REFERRED TO AS HEERF II FUNDS)**

Converse University received \$663,442 in emergency grant funds for students from the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act. Converse received notification from the U.S. Department of Education on January 17, 2021 that the funds were available. The emergency grants were immediately administered, and grant check processing began on February 23, 2021.

As of November 30, 2021, Converse University has awarded CRRSAA Emergency Grants in the amount of \$663,442 to students. Converse University identified 325 students who were potentially eligible based on the guidance that HEERF II grants should be prioritized based on financial need (based on an Expected Family Contribution, as calculated by the FAFSA). An EFC range of 0 - 7,500 was used to determine eligibility. All other Converse students had the opportunity to apply for HEERF II funds by completing a "CRRSAA Benevolence Fund Application."

As of November 30, 2021, Converse University has provided 358 CRRSAA Emergency Grants to students.

As of November 30, 2021, there are no remaining CRRSAA Emergency Grant funds.

The CRRSAA emergency grants were expended in the following manner:

- Emergency grants were calculated based on need as defined by the Expected Family Contribution from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) formula, residential status, and student type (Traditional Undergraduate and Converse II).
- A grant of \$2,000 was given to all students who are Federal Pell Grant eligible and have been determined to have significant need based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) formula and enrolled full-time for the Spring 2021 semester.
- A grant of \$1,000 was given to all students who are Federal Pell Grant eligible and have been determined to have significant need based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) formula and enrolled part-time for the Spring 2021 semester.
- A grant of \$1,000 was given to all students who are NOT Federal Pell Grant eligible and have been determined to have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) ranging from 5,712 to 7,500 as calculated by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) formula.
- A [CRRSAA Benevolence Emergency Fund Application](#) was created for the Financial Planning Office to use for emergency appeals for students who were enrolled for Spring 2021 and were having difficulty paying for their basic needs of food, housing, and technology as calculated in the Cost of Attendance (COA) calculation beyond the initial grant awarded. These applications were reviewed as professional judgment requests by the Associate Vice President for Student Financial Services.

### **CRRSAA Act FAQ's**

#### [Why did I receive a check from the CRRSAA Emergency Grant?](#)

In accordance with the CRSAA, Converse University was given an appropriation of funds to help students who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Converse is grateful to the federal government for providing these funds to aid our students during this difficult time. The CRRSAA Emergency Grant provides funds for things such as housing, meals, technology needs, child care, moving expenses, healthcare expenses, and other basic needs to help college students through the financial hardship(s) created by the disruption of the delivery of education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### How did Converse determine the amount of the CRRSAA Emergency Grant awarded?

The U.S. Department of Education provided guidance based upon the CRRSAA Act legislation that Converse was required to follow when distributing the funds. The disbursements to institutions of higher education from the federal government were calculated based on enrollment and the enrollment of students eligible for Pell grant funds. In accordance with those guidelines, Converse distributed the funds by need as determined by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) established on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Grants were determined based on EFC, Pell Grant eligibility, and enrollment status at the University.

### If the CRRSAA Act was signed into law on January 17, 2021 why was there a delay in receiving CRRSAA Emergency Grants?

Once the CRRSAA Act was signed into law, guidance was issued on what schools could expect and how the University could apply for those funds. Converse developed a plan after careful and thoughtful consideration. The funds became available to the University on January 17, 2021.

### Do I have to report to the University how I spent the CRRSAA Emergency Grant?

No. The CRRSAA Emergency Grant was issued to provide for your basic needs during this pandemic. You do not have to report to the school how the funds were spent. Converse encourages you to be cautious with the expenditure of the grant funds.

### Do I need to provide any additional information to verify I am eligible for the CARES Emergency Grant?

No. Eligibility was established based on information contained in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). By signing and endorsing your CRRSAA Emergency Grant check, you are verifying that you have had unanticipated expenses directly related to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have not incurred any unanticipated expenses, you should return the check to Converse University.

### I have a balance due to the University. Why did Converse issue the funds to me?

The CRRSAA requires Converse to provide the emergency grant funds directly to students. The institution may not use any portion of that to satisfy any outstanding balances or other

expenses incurred by the student and owed to the University The Department of Education does note that the student may use his/her CRRSAA Emergency Grant for any expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Students may use the funds to pay an outstanding balance at Converse.

If you do owe a balance to the University please contact the Student Accounts at [studentaccounts@converse.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@converse.edu) about settling that any balance due. Our Student Accounts staff will evaluate requests for payment arrangements on a case by case basis, subject to approval by the Associate Vice President for Student Financial Services.

### [I am enrolled in an online program, will I receive a CRRSAA Emergency Grant?](#)

At institutions that provide both online and ground-based education, those students who were enrolled exclusively in an online program on March 13, 2020, the date of the President’s Proclamation “declaring a national emergency concerning the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak,” are not eligible for CRRSAA emergency grants.

The formula provided by Congress for calculating the distribution of funds to institutions excludes students who were exclusively enrolled in distance education courses. Additionally, the CARES emergency grants to students are for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, and students who were enrolled exclusively in online programs would not have expenses directly related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

### [What if I need additional assistance such as food, shelter and other basic needs for the summer term\(s\)? Will I receive additional funds?](#)

If you have additional needs not addressed by the initial CARES Emergency Grants, you must complete the [CRRSAA Benevolence Fund Application](#) and return the application and any appropriate materials to the Associate Vice President for Student Financial Services at [james.kellam@converse.edu](mailto:james.kellam@converse.edu)

All emergency requests will be evaluated. Funding is limited and Converse may not be able to approve or fully fund all requests. **Please note there are no CRRSA funds remaining.**

## Who do I contact if I have questions about the CRRSAA Emergency Grant?

Questions can be directed to our Associate Vice President for Student Financial Services, J.W. Kellam, by email at [james.kellam@converse.edu](mailto:james.kellam@converse.edu) or by calling 864-596-9019.

Last updated November 30, 2021.