



- 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)
- 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 are reviewed as professional judgment requests by the Director of Financial Planning.

## CRRSAA Act FAQ's

### Why did I receive a check from the CRRSAA Emergency Grant?

In accordance with the CARES Act, Converse College has been given an appropriation of funds to help students who have been affected by the coronavirus. Converse is grateful to the federal government for providing these funds to aid our students during this difficult time. The CRRSAA Act 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 College.

**If the CRRSAA Act was signed into law on DATE NEEDED, 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 College could apply for those funds. Converse developed a plan after careful and thoughtful consideration and applied for the funds on DATE NEEDED. The funds became available to the College on DATE NEEDED.

**Do I have to report to the College 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 as the economy has not fully reopened and needs are still uncertain. It is highly unlikely that additional grant funding will be received.

**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 CARES 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 College.

**I have a balance due to the College. Why did Converse issue the funds to me?**

The CARES Act 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 College. The Department of Education does note that the student may use his/her CARES 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 College, please contact the Student Billing Office at [studentbilling@converse.edu](mailto:studentbilling@converse.edu) about settling that balance so that you are prepared for the Fall 2020 semester. Our Student Billing staff will evaluate requests for payment arrangements on a case by case basis, subject to approval by the Vice President for Finance and Administration and in cooperation with the Financial Planning Office.

### **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 CARES emergency grants (85 Fed. Reg. 15,337 (March 18, 2020)).

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 am in need of 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 all requests.

### **Will there be additional CARES Emergency Grants for the 2021-2022 academic year?**

Information is forthcoming concerning a third round of emergency grants for students. Converse will evaluate this information and distribute this information to the campus community as appropriate.

**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.

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