

Washburn University and Washburn Tech have signed and returned to the Department of Education the [Funding Certification and Agreement](#) Emergency Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. At least 50% of the funding received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act will be used to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. \$2,250,087 may be allocated towards Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Of that amount, Washburn Tech will be allocated up to \$387,090. Washburn University and Washburn Tech intend to provide the full amount of the CARES allocation to students.

30 days from signing the agreement, Washburn University has provided funding to 569 students totaling \$411,856 and Washburn Tech has provided funding to 50 students totaling \$38,574. To date \$450,430 in emergency grant funding under the CARES act has been provided. It is estimated that 3,616 students may be eligible to apply for the emergency grant under the CARES act. By the end of May, \$451,153 had been provided to students.

[Guidance](#) issued from the Department of Education indicates that emergency financial aid grants under Section 18004(c) may only be given to those who are or could be eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act. [FAQ](#) question 12 issued by the Department of Education indicates that students enrolled exclusively in an online only program are not eligible for emergency financial aid grants. Washburn University students that are not eligible for emergency grants under the CARES Act may qualify for limited institutional funding. To date, 68 students have received institutional funds totaling \$53,039.

An application is required to determine student eligibility and funding. Students were notified of the emergency grant application in a campus wide email, through the Washburn COVID-19 webpage, the Washburn University financial aid webpage, Twitter, Facebook, and other methods.

A committee was formed to review CARES grant applications. The committee is tasked with determining which applicants will receive the funds, the amount of the award, and which aid year to place the funds. Consideration may be made on the basis of EFC, enrollment at Washburn, eligibility for title IV aid, availability of funds, and extenuating circumstances on the grant application. If the student is applying for the grant in Spring 2020 or Summer 2020, a valid 2019-2020 FAFSA should be on file. If the student is applying for the grant in Fall 2020, a valid 2020-2021 FAFSA should be on file.

The committee will utilize the following point system. A maximum of 100 points will be allowed. The total points will become a percentage used to calculate the grant. See below.

Approved application	50
Enrollment	
Full-Time enrollment	25
Three-Quarter-Time enrollment	15
Half-Time enrollment	10

Less Than Half-Time enrollment 0

EFC From FAFSA

0-5,576	25
5,577-15,000	15
15,001+	0

Total out of 100

Enrollment for spring 2020 will be determined based upon frozen hours. For most title IV eligible students this date would be 01/31/2020. If no hours exist and the student withdrew, we will go off enrollment as of March 13th. If no freeze hours exist and the student is still enrolled, we will go off current enrollment.

The score out of 100 will be converted to a percentage. It will be multiplied by approved expenses to determine the grant amount. The minimum award will be \$100 and the maximum award will be \$6,195. Students not receiving the maximum \$6,195 will be allowed to submit further applications. For example, if the committee determines that the students had \$4,000 of eligible expenses and a score of 75. The committee will take $\$4,000 \times 75\%$ and determine the Grant amount of \$3,000 for the student.

If a student is ineligible to complete the FAFSA, when determining institutional funding, they will automatically be granted 25 for EFC.

The committee may encourage students to pursue other grant and scholarship opportunities before determining the award.

Funds awarded to students may be used to assist with food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, child care expenses travel, or other. Food and relocation from on campus housing do not require supporting documentation unless the committee determines there is a need for clarification. All remaining expenses will require supporting documentation as indicated on the application. Documentation should explain student expenses resulting from on campus disruptions due to the corona virus.

The committee has decided that initial awards should include up to 3 months of expenses for March 2020, April 2020, and May 2020. This is because on campus disruptions began in March 2020 and emergency grants were first made available in May 2020. Exceptions will be on a case by case basis. Housing expenses will be up to \$700/month. Food will be \$250 per month. Travel and technology expenses will have a maximum of \$1,000. Up to \$750 may be included in technology for a new PC. Childcare expenses will have a maximum of \$1,000 per child. Relocation from on campus housing will be \$250.

The CARES emergency grant will be paid directly to the student and will not directly pay current or prior balances at Washburn. An exception can be made for emergency student loans if they were used to

give student access to funds while awaiting the grant. Institutional grants may be used to reduce the student balance.