

Emergency Federal Grants to Students Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act NJIT Policy

In the third phase of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the U.S. Department of Education has made Emergency Grants available for students who demonstrate the highest need and who experienced unforeseen emergency expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. Eligible expenses include items in the student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare. You may also use these funds to pay down balances owed to the university.

Eligibility Criteria

All enrolled students with emergency expenses due to the disruption of campus operations because of COVID-19. Other relief grants will be provided to the extent possible in cases where students do not meet the general guidelines.

Application Requirements

All requests require an online application submission with subsequent applications permitted in the following month. Students are encouraged to provide supporting documentation if applicable and reasonably possible.

Date of Impact

Any COVID-19 related emergency expense that incurred on or after March 12, 2020, which is the beginning of the disruption of campus operations.

Funding Determination and Timeline

Funds will be determined based on the amount requested but not to exceed \$500. Requests that exceed \$500 will be considered at the committee's discretion, considering the available budget. First preference given to those demonstrating the highest need which are those with Pell Grant Expected Family Contribution (EFC) following non-Pell Grant EFC students including non-FAFSA filers, graduate and international students with need. Funds will be considered on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Expenses Limitations

In cases where there is federal and state relief already available, the committee reserves the right to deny or approve the request to avoid duplicating the relief. Such is the case with the loss of employment where there is present relief provided by the New Jersey Unemployment Agency. Further, the New Jersey

Governor's Executive Order that prohibits eviction or foreclosure proceedings will be considered in related requests.

Other limitations include technology expenses that would have existed prior to the COVID-19 impact such as students who were already enrolled in on-line courses.

The committee may use discretion to consider extraordinary circumstances.

Impact on Aid Package

Emergency Grants under the CARES Act are not considered estimated financial assistance and therefore, are excluded from the aid package as well as untaxed income. As such, these grants do not adversely affect students' aid.

Fund Distribution

Under the CARES Act, these funds will be provided directly to students. Such funds will not be used to pay down current student balances.

Emergency Grant CARES Act Committee

The committee will consist of staff representing the Dean of Students Office, Office of Student Financial Aid Services, and the Office of Student Persistence.

Grant Disbursements and Delivery

The disbursement of funds will be applied to the student's account and will not be used to pay down any current account balance. For those signed up for direct deposit, funds will transfer to their bank account; otherwise, a check will be mailed to the student's address on file. Students are highly encouraged to set up direct deposit, which is a safe, secure and efficient way of receiving a refund directly to your bank account. If you have signed up for direct deposit for payroll, this does not mean you are signed up for refund direct deposit. For more information on the Direct Deposit enrollment process, please visit the Refund Information section of the [Bursar's Office website](#).