



## COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Funds

Dear Student,

We hope that this email finds you and your family healthy and that your studies are going well.

St. John's University is pleased to share with our students that the University received notification from the U.S Department of Education that it will be entitled to funding under the CARES Act. This emergency financial assistance is intended to provide direct assistance one-time emergency grants to students impacted by COVID-19.

The CARES Act provides institutions with discretion as to how to award this emergency assistance to students. This means that each institution may develop its own system and process for determining how to allocate funds. St. John's has decided to distribute funds to Federal Pell recipients enrolled for the Spring 2020 semester. **All Federal Pell grant recipients will automatically receive a one-time grant of \$1,000 dollars.**

The University will begin to process CARES Act funding within 3 business days of this email. During this 3 business day period, we encourage all students who are not set up for direct deposit to [sign up](#) online immediately to expedite receipt of funds. Also, students who are currently set up for direct deposit should ensure their account is still active. In addition, students who have not signed up for direct deposit will receive a check mailed to their current address on file with the University. Check recipients should ensure that their mailing address is up to date in the University Information System ([UIS](#)). **After this 3 business day period, direct deposits will be issued within 3 business days and checks will be issued within 10 business days.**

The funds distributed to you, as a Federal Pell grant recipient, are to be used to assist with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus pandemic such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.

In addition to the Federal Governments COVID-19 funding, St. John's University will also allocate funds for a one-time need-based grant to help those students impacted by this pandemic. These funds will be awarded based on need, and they will be posted on the students' financial aid accounts for the 2020-21 academic year. Please complete this [application](#) and be specific as to how you have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We wish you and your family continued health and safety, and we look forward to being together in person again soon.

Sincerely,  
Office of Student Financial Services

## CARES ACT Funding Questions and Answers

### What is the CARES Act?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocates funds to support individuals and business/organizations impacted by COVID-19. The Act provides funds for universities, like St. John's.

### How was the amount of the CARES Act funds awarded to me calculated?

The CARES act requires that the funds be used to cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance. As suggested by the U.S. Department of Education to support students that demonstrate the greatest financial needs, St. John's has decided to provide the approximate equivalent of a little more than 2 months' home maintenance to assist with the increased costs associated with food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care resulting from COVID-19 and associated stay at home orders.

### Will the CARES Act funds affect my current financial aid?

This federal emergency grant is not intended to replace or supplement existing financial aid, and any funds received do not have to be repaid. Federal funds awarded are a one-time direct assistance grant.

### As a recipient of the CARES Act funds, how will I receive my funds?

After the above referenced 3 business day period, direct deposits will be issued within 3 business days and checks will be issued within 10 business days.

### How do I sign up for Direct Deposit?

Login to UIS and follow these [directions](#).

### Will the CARES Act grant be taxable?

The funds may be taxable, please consult with your tax advisor when filing your 2020 tax returns.

### Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

Additional questions can be directed to the University Customer Service Center at 718-990-2000 or emailed to [studentfinancialserv@stjohns.edu](mailto:studentfinancialserv@stjohns.edu).

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