



April 7, 2021

Dear Bennett Belles,

As we continue to experience COVID-19 and the unusual and difficult circumstances that are associated with the pandemic, Bennett College's Board of Trustees, Senior Leadership, faculty, and staff continue to embrace our Bennett family through these unprecedented times. We have the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff at the forefront of all decision making.

On December 27, 2020, The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) was signed into law by President Donald Trump. Bennett College has, again, received \$384,399 in CARES Act emergency financial relief grant funds to help students with their cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or childcare.

Bennett College is committed to providing students with this emergency financial relief grant as prescribed by the legislation. We are small and so we can keep close tabs on each of you. There is not a single Belle whose life has not been disrupted and our hearts go out to you and your families. We recognize that all students have experienced a variety of challenges and disruptions connected to the coronavirus including housing and food insecurity, loss of employment, changes in childcare, and lack of access to reliable technology and Wi-Fi.

Emergency financial relief grants will be made to students currently enrolled and who were on the official verified enrollment roster as of Friday, February 5, 2021. Each full-time student will receive \$1,820.00 on their Mobile One debit card. Part-time students will receive an amount on their Mobile One debit card based on their credit hours x \$150.00 per credit hour.

Please note there are three (3) significant differences in the December 27, 2020 CRRSAA CARES Act emergency financial relief grant for students:

1. All students who are United States Citizens are eligible to receive the emergency relief grant.
2. These grants will not be taxable income for students.
3. Students may opt to use their emergency relief grant to satisfy their outstanding account balance.




**NEXT STEPS:**

1. If you would like to apply your emergency relief grant to your student account to partially or fully satisfy an outstanding account balance, please click on this link [CARES Act Student Grant Form](#) and complete the form. If you choose this option the form must be completed by April 14. If your emergency grant exceeds the outstanding balance on your student account, the excess amount will be refunded to you after April 14.
2. If you do not have an outstanding balance or do not want to apply the funds to your outstanding balance, no further action is required on your part. The emergency grant will be sent to you after April 14.

We will continue to keep students updated via your Bennett email. Please make sure we have your current contact information. If you have any questions, please reach out to Catherine Hurd, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Experience ([Catherine.hurd@bennett.edu](mailto:Catherine.hurd@bennett.edu)) and/or George Latter, Vice President of Business and Finance ([glatter@bennett.edu](mailto:glatter@bennett.edu)).

These are challenging VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex, ambiguous) times. With this support we hope to lessen the VUCA of this moment so that you may stay healthy and as focused as possible on continuing your academic journeys.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Elise Walsh, JD

*Catherine R. Hurd*

Catherine Hurd, Recipient State Director for US Department of Education Grant P425E203368-20A