

# Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Fall 2020 Newsletter



Cuyahoga Community College

## Financial aid is here for you!

### 24/7 Financial Aid Assistance

The coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has brought unprecedented change to our daily lives. The College knows this is a challenging time and that students may need help.

We want to ensure students are aware of the resources available to

assist them and the several ways students have to connect with the financial aid office.



Many of our financial aid processes have been moved to online for-

mats and we have Tri-C 24/7 available after hours, on weekends, and even holidays!

More than 66% of Tri-C students receive an average of \$4,279 (average cost for in-county, full-time tuition and fees is \$2748) in financial aid and scholarships to help pay for tuition, books, and

living expenses. The college also offers assistance to students who have experienced COVID-19 related emergency expenses or disruptions.

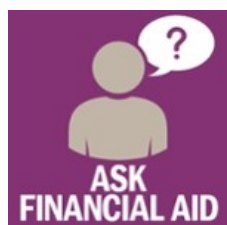
If you need help applying for financial aid or have questions about accessing other resources, contact the Financial Aid Office.

## How to contact the Financial Aid Office



Financial aid assistance is available anytime via phone.

Call us at (216)987-6000, option #2.



You can use our [Financial Aid Chat](#) to speak directly with a financial aid advisor.

Available:  
Mon-Thu 8:30a– 5:00p  
Fri: 9:30a-5p



Email us at [financialaid@tri-c.edu](mailto:financialaid@tri-c.edu).

Don't forget to include your student ID number in your email.

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## COVID-19 Support: CARES Act Emergency Fund



The federal government has awarded \$5 million to Tri-C to provide direct emergency assistance to students whose lives and education have been disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak. The funding is available through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, otherwise known as the CARES Act .

If you have experienced COVID-19 related hardships during the pandemic, you may be able eligible to apply for up to \$1500 in financial assistance. Students can apply for emergency funding for expenses such as food, housing, technology and more.

### Eligible students must:

- Be currently enrolled in a credit, degree, or certificate program for the Fall 2020 semester
- Have registered for the Fall 2020 semester

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### *The CARES Act can award up to \$1500 in financial assistance*

- Have payment or a payment plan in place. Authorized financial aid is considered a payment plan.
- Be [eligible for Title IV](#) (federal student aid - pell grant, student loans, etc.) funding. Students must complete a 2020-2021 FAFSA ([www.studentaid.gov/fafsa](http://www.studentaid.gov/fafsa))
- Meet federal student eligibility guidelines.

- Demonstrate emergency expenses or disruptions related to COVID-19.

To apply for Tri-C CARES Act funds, please contact the financial aid office via chat, email, or phone. If you are eligible to apply a financial aid advisor will place the electronic application on your My Tri-C Space for you to complete.

The Student Financial Aid and Scholarships team will review applications regularly and students will be notified of decisions via their Tri-C student email. Please allow an average of 5 business days for review.

Students who are not eligible to apply for the CARES Act may be eligible to apply for other emergency funding. Learn more: [Student Emergency Fund](#)

***Want to know more?*** View our [CARES Act FAQs](#).



## What are you waiting for?

Apply for scholarships today.

## Change in Income: Special Conditions Appeal

Has COVID-19 affected you financially? If so, you may qualify for a special circumstances appeal.

The [Special Circumstances Appeal](#) provides students' an opportunity to appeal their financial information submitted on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) due to a change since filing the FAFSA. The 2020-2021 FAFSA uses 2018 tax and income information to help determine financial aid eligibility. If you have had a change in income, such as losing your job or working reduced hours due to COVID-19, this could be an oppor-

tunity for you to get additional financial aid eligibility.



Before completing the form, it is important to consult with a financial aid advisor to determine whether a financial adjustments will change your financial aid eligibility.

Simply fill out the Special conditions form. The form is available online at : <https://www.tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid-and-scholarships/documents/2021-spccon-fillable.pdf>

Once you have completed the special conditions form and gather all required supporting documentation, you can submit your appeal to the financial aid office. Submission is expected via email, fax, or in person.

**Have questions?** Contact the Financial Aid Office using our [Live Chat](#).

## Student Emergency Fund



Tri-C offers an alternative emergency fund for students who may not be eligible for the CARES Act. This fund was enabled through a grant from the David and Inez Myers Foundation to help students overcome unforeseen financial challenges that would affect their ability to per-

sist in their studies. Students may be awarded up to \$500 to assist with emergency related expenses.

**Examples of emergencies include, but are not limited to:**

- Technology needs
- Book and supplies
- Food assistance
- Child-care related emergencies
- Health emergency expenses not covered by insurance
- Paying for housing/rent when

unusual circumstances arise

- Transportation related emergencies (not routine maintenance)
- Unexpected loss of income

To apply for this fund, contact the financial aid office using, [Live Chat](#), [email](#), or by phone. If approved, funds will be made available through electronic means.

**What more information?** View our [Student Emergency Fund](#) webpage.

## Virtual Financial Education Workshops



Not sure how to answer a question on your FAFSA? Do you have questions about Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) or how to complete a SAP appeal? Want to know more about financial resources outside of federal student aid?

We have expanded our online presence to help address your questions

and provide guidance to you in a remote environment and limited in-person services.

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### ***Virtual Workshops Daily from 3:00pm - 3:30pm***

As a result of the operational changes the college has experienced due to COVID-19, the Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Office has been offering daily virtual workshops that cover various topics. Topics have included, COVID-19 Updates, financial education, Filing the FAFSA,

SAP, and Q&A with Financial Aid.

We invite you to join us in our daily virtual financial education workshops. All sessions will be hosted from 3:00pm-3:30pm. Topics are updated on a weekly basis and you can view the webinar schedule on our website: <https://www.tri-c.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid-and-scholarships/financial-education.html>

**Have questions?** Email [Ad-am.DiIulio@tri-c.edu](mailto:Ad-am.DiIulio@tri-c.edu).

## More Financial Education Resources



[CashCourse](#) is a real-life guide to taking charge of money and personal finances. CashCourse online personal finance tools help students build real-life-ready financial skills.



NET PRICE CALCULATOR

Tri-C values affordability in cost to our students. The [Net Price Calculator](#) helps students estimate the cost of attendance based on the most recent year's costs. It provides an early approximation of what a new first-year student can expect to pay to attend Tri-C.



BUDGET CALCULATOR

Creating a personal budget is key to financial education. We encourage all students to create a budget to help them meet their short and long term financial goals. Use this [budget calculator](#) to help you create a personal budget.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress – How to Appeal

Federal regulations require that Tri-C review the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status of all students who receive federal student aid. The review process evaluates whether a student is “making measurable progress towards completion of their course of study in order to continue receiving federal financial aid”. Tri-C reviews the SAP status for all students at the end of each semester for all terms of enrollment.

To meet SAP standards, at the end of each semester a student must:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher; AND
- Complete at least 67% of all courses attempted; AND
- Be within 150% of the published credits required for completion

If students are unable to meet the SAP guidelines outlined in Tri-C’s policy, they will become disqualified from receiving future federal finan-

cial aid at Tri-C. This includes Pell Grant, Federal SEOG, Federal Student Loans, and Work-Study. It may also disqualify students from being eligible to receive Tri-C scholarship funding.



Disqualified students that have extenuating circumstances may have the option to complete a [SAP Appeal](#) to try and get their financial aid eligibility reinstated.

### Guidelines for submitting a SAP Appeal:

1. Access the SAP appeal electronically via your [my Tri-C Space](#) under the “Financial Aid Requirements” section. If you do not see the requirement for the

SAP appeal, please contact the Financial aid Office.

2. Students are required to complete a [FAFSA](#) prior to submitting an appeal.
3. Complete the SAP Appeal Web form, which includes a detailed personal statement. Please review the [Personal Statement Outline](#) for further details.
4. Upload supporting documentation if you indicated you would provide it.
5. Upload a completed [Academic Plan](#).
6. Upload your [Degree Works Audit](#).

Once all requirements are submitted, you will be notified of the decisions via email or directly through your student portal.

**Want more details?** Find out more about the [Tri-C SAP Policy](#).

**FAFSA  
Available  
on Mobile!**



- Download the app and complete your FAFSA today!
- Convenient and available 24/7
- It’s fast, easy and secure



## Work Study Jobs Still Available!



**Now Hiring Student Workers!**

- On- and off-campus locations
- Expand your professional network

**SEARCH FOR JOBS**

Contact the Student Financial Aid and Scholarship Office for more details: 216-987-6000, Option 2.

Are you looking to make some extra money while attending Tri-C? Consider our [Work Study Program](#)! Although on-campus classes and activities have been reduced, there are still some great opportunities and positions available.

Work study is part-time (up to a maximum of 20 hours per week), so you'll still have time for your studies and you can make your schedule around when you have classes. Students can earn between \$8.70 - \$10 an hour depending on the position.

### Requirements for student employment:

1. Complete a [FAFSA](#)
2. Confirm eligibility with the Financial Aid Office.
3. Enroll in at least 6 credit hours per semester for fall and spring.

4. Be in compliance with [Tri-C's SAP Policy](#)
5. Pass drug screening and background check.

If you are interested in participating in the work study program, go online to apply for student employment positions.

### Applying for Work Study Positions:

1. Go online to [view job postings](#).
2. In the search bar, enter "work study".
3. Complete the student employment application for the job of interest.
4. You will be contact by the department supervisor for interview if selected.

*Want more information?* View our [Work Study FAQs](#).

## Featured Work Study Position: Student Ambassador

**Locations:** All Campus

**Hours:** up to 20 hours per week; schedule determined by supervisor and student

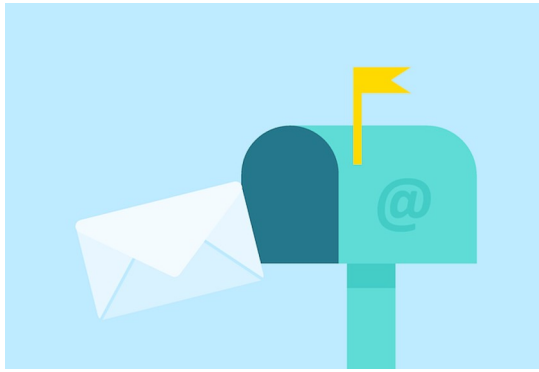
**Pay:** \$9.50 per hour

[Click here to apply now!](#)

**Description:** Student ambassadors will assist new students through the admission process including applying to the college and completing steps in the enrollment process. Student ambassadors will also provide student services to support to visitors and potential students by providing general college information as needed and acting as a connector to campus activities and programming.

## Important Fall 2020 Financial Aid Dates

Book Accounts Open for Full Term, Session A & O	August 14, 2020
Last Day to use Book Account for Full Term, Session A & O	September 23, 2020
Financial Aid Funds Applied for Full Term and Session A	September 27, 2020
Begin Issuing Refund Checks for Full Term and Session A	October 11, 2020
Financial Aid Funds Applied for Session O	October 12, 2020
Book Accounts Open for Session B	October 13, 2020
Begin Issuing Refund Checks for Session O	October 26, 2020
Last Day to use Book Account for Session B	November 18, 2020
Financial Aid Funds Applied for Session B	November 22, 2020
Begin Issuing Refund Checks for Session B	December 13, 2020



## Don't forget to check your email!

*Your Tri-C email is the primary method of communication between you and the College.*

Be sure to check it regularly for important messages regarding registration, deadlines, account and financial aid information and college updates/events.



**BENEFITS  
ACCESS** | **PROJECT  
GO!**



Benefits Access/Project Go! offers free services to assist qualifying students with resources to ease financial challenges and barriers to education. Project Go! provides help by connecting students to resources for food assistance, homelessness, childcare, utilities, and health care. Visit our website today for more information [www.tri-c.edu/projectgo](http://www.tri-c.edu/projectgo).

Contact the Financial Aid Office to make an appointment to meet with a Benefits Coach who can assist with the application process by calling (216)987-6000 option #2.

## The Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

Cuyahoga Community College maintains a full-service Student Financial Aid & Scholarships Office on each campus. This office is dedicated to helping students navigate financial aid options for paying for their college expenses. Students can meet with a Student Financial Aid Advisor to obtain information about various financial aid options, which includes grants, scholarships, student loans, and public benefits. Learn more about various financial resources available at Cuyahoga Community College.

### How to reach us!

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Phone: 216-987-6000  
E-mail: [financialaid@tri-c.edu](mailto:financialaid@tri-c.edu)  
[www.tri-c.edu/financialaid](http://www.tri-c.edu/financialaid)

