



## **Graduate and Professional Student COVID-19 Resources\***

[ASU Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information](#)

### **NEW Graduate Student Crisis Fund**

The Graduate Student Crisis Fund was established to assist students who encounter critical financial situations during the academic year. These funds can be used for students who need assistance with basic needs as one-time financial assistance. Basic needs could include the inability to pay for rent, utilities, food, medicine, or other expenses due to the uncertainty and strain of COVID-19. These funds are provided in part by the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) and by the Sun Devil Family Association as a one-time fund. Applications submitted here will be reviewed by ASU staff members in the Dean of Students' office and the Student Advocacy and Assistance office. This information will not be shared with other students.

[The form can be found here.](#)

### **Emergency Short Term Loan**

The ASU Financial Aid and Scholarship Services provide short term loans for students in emergency financial situations. [Read more here.](#)

### **Food Assistance**

The ASU Pitchfork Pantry is closed for the remainder of the semester. Please directly message @ASUPitchforkPantry on Facebook if you need a one-time care package of food items. Other community resources for food include:

- [Food Banks](#) - Organized by distance from Tempe, West, Polytechnic, and Downtown campuses.
- [Dean of Students Office](#) - If you are in need of food assistance, you can also reach out to your Dean of Students.
- [Aunt Bertha](#) - A third party website that locates social assistance by zip code.

### **Housing Assistance**

To minimize the spread of COVID-19 on campus, all students in residence who have other reasonable accommodations are asked to move off campus by April 15th. ASU is offering a \$1,500 nonrefundable credit for eligible students. [Read more here.](#) For off-campus housing assistance, Community Action Agencies may offer emergency eviction and utility assistance. [Read more here](#) and [here.](#)

## International Students

In these times of uncertainty, GPSA supports resources to inform international students as to their questions regarding traveling and their current and future living situation in the United States. The Coalition of International Students (CIS) is currently administering a [survey](#) to understand how international students are coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are an international student, please consider taking this survey and please pass it along to any of your international student constituents.

- The ASU International Students Scholars Center wishes to provide support and answer questions to international students at this time. [Read more here.](#)
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued COVID-19 related information for international students. [Read more here.](#)
- Other universities are also sharing comprehensive guidance to international students on employment and post graduation guidance. [Read more here.](#)

## Internet Connectivity Resources

- [EveryoneOn](#) locates low-cost internet services and computers near your zip code.
- [Comcast](#) is offering free WiFi for 2 months to low-income families and free Xfinity hot-spot access.
- [Charter Communications](#) is offering free WiFi for 60 days for new college student households.
- [AT&T](#) is offering open hot-spots, unlimited data to existing customers, and \$10/month plans to low income families.
- [Sprint](#) is offering unlimited data to existing customers and will allow all handsets to enable hot-spots for 60 days at no extra charge.
- [T-Mobile](#) is offering unlimited data to existing customers and will allow all handsets to enable hot-spots for 60 days at no extra charge.
- Spectrum: 1-844-488-8395 is offering 60 days of free broadband and WiFi internet access to students; installation fees waived for new student households.

## Digital Textbook Access

The Sun Devil Campus Store has partnered with RedShelf to ensure access to course materials. Access runs through May 25th. [Read more here.](#)

Some publishers are also providing free access codes to e-versions of textbooks for the remainder of the semester. See:

- [West Academic](#): Students can call 877-888-1330, Ext.4 to request eBooks.
- [Wolters-Kluwer](#)

## Third-Party Resources, Deals & Discounts

GPSA does not endorse or sponsor any of the third parties that may be linked in the following list - we share these in hopes that you find the assistance you need and, as always, please reach out at [gpsa@asu.edu](mailto:gpsa@asu.edu) if you cannot find what you are looking for.

- **Unemployment Benefits** | [Apply here.](#) - Students without jobs can apply for unemployment and may be eligible for up to \$600 additional funds from the government during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more here.](#)
- **Financial Assistance Programs** | AZ Department of Economic Security (DES) compiled a list of services to help individuals and families through Covid-19. [Read more here.](#)
- **Childcare Assistance** | [Read more here.](#)
- **Meals for Children** | [Read more here.](#)

- **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)** | [Apply here](#).
- **Small Business Support** | Local First Arizona is providing mini grants for small, family-owned businesses with three or fewer employees. [Read more here](#).
- **Federal Taxes** | [IRS extended filing deadline](#) - now July 15th
  - How to Prepare Your Grad Student Tax Return [blog](#)
- **College Student Travel Assistance:**
  - [U-Haul](#) | 30 days of free self-storage for college students
  - [RedRoof](#) | Offering students 30% discount and weekly stays (7+ days) receive a \$25 Amazon gift card to purchase essential items.

## General Changes to Payment Policies

This list was finalized on April 8, 2020 - please check with your own service providers, landlords, and local government officials to verify if your bills or payment commitments have been deferred.

- Arizona Governor Doug Ducey has passed a number of initiatives providing relief for Arizona residents related to delayed housing evictions, deferrals on loan payments, and more. [See the list of Executive Orders here](#).
- The U.S. Department of Education is providing broad relief for federal student loan borrowers. Payments may automatically stop from March 13, 2020 - September 30, 2020. [Read more here](#).
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and private communication companies are pledging to prevent Americans from losing internet or telephone connectivity during this time. Please contact your providers directly to inquire or [read more here](#) about the pledge.

## Volunteer Opportunities

- Arizona Together is committed to a unified effort to get the state through the Covid-19 outbreak. Sign-up for volunteer opportunities [here](#).
- Law students interested in providing pro bono support on legal cases related to Covid-19 can sign up for volunteer opportunities [here](#).

## In The News

**You are not alone.** Graduate and Professional students around the country are facing uncertain and difficult times. Catch up on higher education related COVID-19 stories at:

- On coping | [That Discomfort You're Feeling is Grief](#)
- On graduate student experience | [For Many Graduate Students, Covid-19 Pandemic Highlights Inequities](#)
- On institutional responses | [Higher Education Responses to Covid-19](#)
- On legislative stimulus eligibility | [Answers to Questions About Coronavirus and Financial Aid](#)
  - [IRS Economic Impact Payments](#) - What You Need to Know about Stimulus Rebate/ Direct Payment
- On ASU response | [ASU launches drive-thru coronavirus testing for essential workers](#)

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**\*IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:** This document was prepared by the GPSA [Office of the Vice President of External Affairs](#). Please contact GPSA at [gpsa@asu.edu](mailto:gpsa@asu.edu) if you have any questions or need additional resources. **All non-ASU resources are not supported by ASU or GPSA in any way.**