

Tuition Appeal Guidelines

Tuition Appeals are for students who are requesting a refund or balance waiver of their tuition charges due to extenuating circumstances **preventing attendance** that occurred during a given term. Students who complete their coursework and earn valid final grades cannot submit a tuition appeal for a balance waiver or tuition refund. **All grades received and recorded on the students transcripts will not be affected by this process and will remain as part of the student's academic record.**

The Tuition Appeals Committee will consider requests for adjustments to tuition charges when a student can **document** extenuating circumstances such as:

- **Student illness or injury** during the semester
- **Illness or injury of immediate family member for whom you provided care** during the semester (parent, child, spouse, sibling or grandparent)
- **Death of immediate family member** during the semester (parent, child, spouse, sibling or grandparent)
- **Military deployment** during the semester
- **Change in employment** schedule beyond students control
- **Verifiable Error of CCRI**
- **Other:** Provide a detailed explanation of the situation and include all relevant documentation.
- **COVID-19** related reason

In all cases, the situation must have interrupted your ability to:

- ✓ Adhere to the standard drop procedures
- ✓ Attend class(es) for a substantial length of time
- ✓ Complete the semester

Examples of reasons **not** accepted are:

- Appealing for non-refundable registration fees
- Voluntary employment change
- Class assignments not met (see Department Chair)*
- Issues between the student and the instructor (see Department Chair)*
- Disciplinary Action
- Unaware of drop schedule
- Non attendance
- Didn't like the instructor, their teaching methods, or the course for which you registered
- Incorrect course advising recommendations provided by "other" college
- Instructor says they will take care of it. Student is responsible for changes to his/her schedule

*** Please note:** If your circumstance is due to an issue with the instructor, curriculum or class instruction methods, please visit with your instructor, Department Chairperson or the appropriate Academic Dean over your circumstance before attempting this process.

Appeals for this reason MUST be accompanied by a refund recommendation letter from either the Department Chairperson or appropriate Dean from Academic Affairs. Grade assignments and other academic issues are not within the scope of these procedures and are addressed in the Student Resource Guide.

Students should be aware that if a Tuition Appeal is submitted and they are a Financial Aid recipient, their Financial Aid may be impacted and they may potentially owe CCRI money. It is strongly suggested you meet with a Financial Aid Representative before you file a Tuition Appeal.

All Tuition Appeal Forms must be submitted with a typed student explanation of the extenuating circumstances for the term in question and be accompanied by copies of verifiable documentation showing your inability to attend. Appeals that do not give an explanation of your inability to attend the term in question will be denied. Appeals written “on behalf of” the student will not be accepted.

- **Student Illness**: A note from your physician or medical provider on their letterhead indicating the dates you were unable to attend class. The note must be signed by your physician or medical provider. The medical condition does not need to be disclosed to the committee. Excuse slips, copies of invoices, appointment confirmations, statements of insurance payments, etc. are not acceptable documentation. **Do NOT send copies of your medical records.**
- **Illness of immediate family member**: (parent, child, spouse, sibling or grandparent) A note from your family member’s physician or medical provider on their letterhead indicating the dates of illness and need for a caregiver. The note must be signed by the physician or medical provider. The medical condition does not need to be disclosed to the committee. Excuse slips, copies of invoices, appointment confirmations, statements of insurance payments, etc. are not acceptable documentation.
- **Death of immediate family member**: (parent, child, spouse, sibling or grandparent) Submit a copy of the death certificate, obituary or death notice. **Documents must clearly indicate the relationship of the deceased to the student.**
- **Military deployment**: A copy of the official deployment/reactivation notice. Deployment and reactivation dates must be within the semester you are appealing.
- **Change in employment** beyond the student’s control that prevents the student from attending the classes for which he/she is registered. A letter from your employer on company letterhead indicating the **reason, date, and new days and times** of the change in work schedule. The new work schedule must conflict with class times to be valid.
- **Verifiable Error of CCRI**: Provide a detailed account of the problem and relevant documents on College letterhead from the College Office involved or advisor indicating that incorrect information was given by a College representative.
- **Other**: Provide a detailed account of the extenuating circumstance and submit copies of supporting documentation.
- **COVID-19 related issue**: loss of income (provide employer verification or proof applied for UE benefits); increased work hours (provide employer verification of new hours); loss of childcare or assisting your school age children with their online learning (provide copy of child’s birth certificate)

Please follow the steps below for filing a Tuition Appeals:

1. Review the Tuition Appeal guidelines
2. Complete the Tuition Appeal Form
3. Compose and attach an appeal letter explaining your situation, be specific, give details, state your case clearly
4. Attach the necessary documentation to support your claim
5. If a grant, scholarship and/or loan funds were paid on your behalf for the semester in which you are appealing, see the Financial Aid Office to go over the impact an approved appeal will have on your Financial Aid eligibility.
6. Submit the completed Tuition Appeal Form, Letter of Explanation and supporting documentation to Tuition Appeals Committee, Student Services, Community College of Rhode Island, 400 East Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886, Or fax to 401-825-1148, Or email tuitionappeals@ccri.edu

Once the Tuition Appeal Committee has reached a decision, the student will be sent a letter within two-weeks of the meeting date stating the decision and action to be taken next by the college or the student. Decisions will NOT be given over the phone.

- ❖ If the Tuition Appeal is “**Approved**”, the student’s tuition account will be adjusted according.
- ❖ If the Tuition Appeal is “**Pending additional documentation**”, the committee is requesting additional documentation in order to make a final decision. The student will have 30 days to submit the additional documentation or the appeal will be denied.
- ❖ If the Tuition Appeal is “**Denied**”, the student can request for the Tuition Appeal to be reconsidered by the committee if the student can supply **additional** documentation to support the circumstances.

Please note: Courses for which a Tuition Appeal are approved will not be dropped or withdrawn from your academic transcript. It is the student’s responsibility to withdraw from courses within the specified deadline or seek unofficial withdrawals from your instructors. This committee deals with adjustments to tuition only.