

## FAQs: 2025-2026 Rates for Tuition, Housing and Meals

2025-2026 Undergraduate Tuition		2025-2026 CII & Graduate Tuition	
Tuition	\$33,694	Converse II	\$550 per credit hour
Housing & Meals \$	\$14,524	MFA in Creative Writing	\$700 per credit hour
		MMFT	\$575 per credit hour
SGA Fee	\$450	EdD	\$575 per credit hour
Total	\$48,668	MAT, MEd, MM, MLA, MiM, EdS	\$525 per credit hour

There will be no changes to undergraduate fees, which include an annual \$450 SGA fee and a one-time \$350 matriculation fee for first-time freshmen and transfer students. With few exceptions, books and supplies are now covered at no additional cost to undergraduate and Converse II students. Additional costs may be incurred for lab or other course-specific fees.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### How much is the increase in Converse's tuition, housing and meals for 2025-2026?

- Undergraduate tuition will increase by \$8,904; housing and meals will increase by \$694
- Total cost for undergraduate tuition, housing and meals will increase by \$9,598
- Each returning full-time traditional undergraduate student will receive a Converse
   Commitment Scholarship of \$7,500 that renews each year until graduation, or eight semesters
   of full-time enrollment, to help offset this change and minimize its impact. This brings the total
   out-of-pocket increase for returning undergraduate students for 2025-2026 down to \$2,098 for
   residents and \$1,404 for commuters
- Converse II tuition will increase to \$550 per credit hour; CII students will now be included in the First Day Ready program, which includes the cost of textbooks and most required materials
- Graduate tuition is as follows:
  - o MAT, MEd, MM, MLA, MiM and EdS have increased by \$25 to \$525 per credit hour
  - o MMFT and EdD have increased by \$25 to \$575 per credit hour
  - o MFA has increased by \$60 to \$700 per credit hour, with a \$725 fee per residency

#### Why is Converse raising tuition, housing and meals?

We have amended our tuition structure to offer more desirable scholarship packages to current and future Valkyries, to align with the true value of a Converse degree, and to remain competitive in the higher education marketplace. This change also allows us to better control and minimize the long-term impact of inflation and rising costs by providing more stability, with smaller, incremental increases from year to year. The Converse Commitment Scholarship will help offset this change for returning traditional undergraduate students.

### What is the Converse Commitment Scholarship?

Each currently enrolled full-time traditional undergraduate student will receive a \$7,500 Converse Commitment Scholarship, which will renew every year of full-time enrollment until graduation or eight semesters of full-time enrollment. The scholarship is designed to provide crucial financial support and will be given in addition to any other financial aid the student may already receive. This change also helps keep Converse competitive when prospective students compare scholarship offers from other schools with similar tuition rates.



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## What about books and supplies? Does tuition cover these?

Yes! Our <u>First Day Ready</u> program ensures that textbooks and certain required class materials are provided for all undergraduate and Converse II students, with very few exceptions. This means students will have the right textbooks and course materials by the first day of classes, helping them focus on their studies instead of worrying about paying for books and supplies.

## How does Converse's tuition compare with other colleges and universities?

Converse's tuition is well below the national average of private, four-year institutions and, even with this increase, we remain highly competitive among undergraduate peer institutions at private colleges and regional comprehensive universities in the Southeast. In addition, our students save money by consistently graduating in four years with the Converse Guarantee program.

## With the increase in tuition, will students see any new benefits?

Yes! We are investing in the University's <u>strategic priorities</u>, which focus on our people, places, and programs. Here are a few ways we have improved the student experience to date:

- First Day Ready textbook program
- Interior and exterior campus upgrades
- Montgomery Student Center Gym upgrades
- Community space improvements to residence halls
- Commuter Center renovation
- · Campus technology refreshes
- Program expansion with new majors
- New faculty additions
- Food service improvements
- Increased Career Development staffing
- Expanded veteran and military-affiliated student support
- Continued commitment to The Converse Guarantee

### What else is Converse doing to keep tuition as low as possible?

Please know that being trusted with students' tuition dollars is a responsibility we take with the utmost importance and care. The decision to adjust tuition is always a difficult one, but Converse is determined to minimize the impact on students and families by celebrating your accomplishments with increased scholarships, as well as through proactive planning, increased fundraising efforts, and careful stewardship of university assets.

### What if I have more questions? Can my family contact Financial Aid directly?

Our Student Financial Services team is available to discuss financial aid and scholarship resources tailored to each student. Students and their families may contact University Student Financial Services directly at 864.596.9019 or <a href="mailto:financialaid@converse.edu">financialaid@converse.edu</a>. Under the terms of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), Converse may not share students' educational information without permission. Students may complete a waiver to establish authorized users for their families by visiting the <a href="mailto:Students section of my.converse">Students section of my.converse</a> and selecting FERPA Permissions, then "Add Parent/Guardian." Requests to add users are typically handled the same day; requests received after 3 p.m. will be processed the next business day.



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## **Tips from Student Financial Services**

Federal and state need-based aid and merit-based and talent-based scholarships help reduce your bottom-line cost. Our Student Financial Services team is available to discuss financial aid and scholarship resources available. You may contact them at 864.596.9019 or financialaid@converse.edu.

## Complete the FAFSA Annually at <a href="https://www.studentaid.gov/fafsa">www.studentaid.gov/fafsa</a>

To ensure you receive the maximum of financial aid possible, be sure to complete a
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year. Once your FAFSA has been
completed and submitted to Converse, we will be able to provide you with an official
individual financial aid package.

## Monitor Your Academics for State Scholarships (HOPE, LIFE, and Palmetto Fellows)

• To renew your state scholarship each year, you must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA and earn at least 30 credits over the course of the academic year. If you need to make up credits or raise your GPA, you may take Summer classes, which begin on May 27. Eligibility is based on Fall, Spring, and Summer hours earned.

## **Apply for Outside Scholarships**

- Submit as many third-party scholarship applications as possible. Consider scholarships from various sources. Use online scholarship search engines, approach local businesses or organizations, check with your employer for tuition reimbursement or scholarship options, etc.
- To find scholarship options online, check out this helpful page on our website:
   <a href="https://www.converse.edu/admissions/undergraduate/financial-aid/scholarship-resources/">https://www.converse.edu/admissions/undergraduate/financial-aid/scholarship-resources/</a>.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact the Office of Student Financial Services at 864.596.9019 or financialaid@converse.edu.