

PO Box 337
Due West, SC 29639

ERSKINE

C O L L E G E

(864) 379-8832 Phone
(864) 379-2172 Fax

Financial Aid Office

ARP Church Matching Grant Application

(to be completed by the student)

Student's name: _____ Phone: _____

Student's Street Address: _____

Student's City, State, Zip: _____

I understand and accept the conditions below in order to apply for the Erskine College ARP Church Matching Grant.

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

The ARP Church Matching Grant Program is a program designed to help make your college experience more affordable. This grant is an investment by your church in your future, and an expression of their confidence in your potential to honor Christ.

Erskine College will match your church's donation up to \$1500 (**some Limits/Caps do apply-see catalog**).

In order to receive the Matching Grant, you must read the conditions below, sign and date the agreement, and forward it to your pastor/clerk of session to complete page 2.

1. You must be a member of an ARP Church.
2. You must be a full-time student (12 or more hours per semester).
3. You may be interviewed by your Church Matching Grant Committee.
4. The Church Matching Grant Committee will determine the amount of the church's gift.
5. **You must re-apply for a Church Matching Grant each year.** *The application will be mailed to the student's home address during the months of January/February.*
6. Students eligible for the Member of ARP Church Grant, ARP Matching Grant, and other special scholarships may receive a combination of these not to exceed \$3,000 in Erskine Special Scholarships.
7. **Applications must be received in the Erskine College Financial Aid Office by May 1st each year.** *(Erskine funds are limited; therefore, awards are made on a first-come, first-serve basis. When funds are exhausted, matches can no longer be made even if the May1 deadline is met.)*
8. **Church funds for your Matching Grant must be received by September 1st of each year.** *(If the church contribution is not received by September 1, Erskine College will not match the contribution).*

Your church must complete the reverse side of this form and mail it to Erskine College Financial Aid Office by May 1 in order for you to receive the Matching Grant.

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Financial Aid Office

ARP Church Matching Grant Application (to be completed by the church)

Please note this form must be completed and postmarked by **May 1st** in order for the student to be considered as an ARP Church Matching Grant recipient. Erskine matches gifts on a first-come, first-serve basis determined by the date this application is received in the Financial Aid Office. Limited funds are available for matching gifts. Once the funds are allocated, matches will not longer be awarded even if the **May 1st** deadline is met.

_____ herein enters into an agreement with Erskine College
Church Name (please print)

to provide a student grant for _____ who will
(first) (middle) (last)

be a _____ during the academic year, September 20 ____ to May 20 ____.
(freshman, sophomore, junior, senior)

Church contribution will be \$ _____.

Pastor's Signature: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Church Address: _____

Office Phone # () _____

Home Phone # () _____

The amount pledged may be mailed to Erskine College at any time prior to September 1st. The church gift must reach our office by September 1 in order to be awarded to the student for the current academic year. Money received after September 1 will be credited to the student, however, Erskine College *will not* match the contribution.

The Erskine College Financial Aid Office will determine the source of the institutional match and make adjustments to the student's aid award where necessary.

Important: Please make check payable to Erskine College and indicate on the memo line: Church Matching Grant for (name of student).

Mail to: Financial Aid Office, P. O. Box 337, Due West, SC 29639

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C O L L E G E

ARP Church Matching Grant Guidelines for Students

The ARP Church Matching Grant program is an attempt to help make your college experience at Erskine more affordable. It is a program in which your local ARP church provides a gift to Erskine College which is matched by Erskine and credited to your account.

The intent is for your local ARP church to assist in your having a quality college experience. It is a grant, and therefore a gift with no repayment necessary. It is an investment by your church in your future. This gift is an expression of their confidence in your potential to honor Christ.

The following information is provided to assist you as you investigate the possibility of an ARP Church Matching Grant from your church.

APPLY EARLY

- Complete and give the Student Application form to your church pastor immediately and ask if you will be considered for an Erskine College ARP Church Matching Grant.
- Remember that, in most cases, your request for an ARP Church Matching Grant gift from your church will need to be approved by a special committee or board.
- Churches may obtain an ARP Church Matching Grant application online www.erskine.edu

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1st - The enclosed Award Application must be completed by you and your church and postmarked by May 1st in order for you to be considered as a recipient of an ARP Church Matching Grant for the upcoming academic year. Since the funds for matching the gifts from churches are limited, once the funds are allocated, matches will no longer be awarded even if the May 1st deadline has been met. Therefore, it is important that you notify your church immediately and have them begin the process of completing and mailing the award application form to the church matching grant office.

September 1st - If the funds are not received from the church by September 1st then Erskine College will not match the church contribution.

- NOTE:** Erskine matches gifts from churches on a first-come, first-serve basis determined by the date the Award Application is received.
- Students eligible for the Member of ARP Church Grant, ARP Matching, or any other special scholarship funds may receive a combination of these not to exceed \$3,000 in Erskine funds.

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used by Erskine to determine your eligibility for additional financial assistance through federal, state, and institutional resources.

EXPRESS APPRECIATION

This gift from your church is an expression of love and a vote of confidence in your future. In addition to expressing appreciation through a note or letter, think of additional ways to show your gratitude, such as offering to help at the church when you are home for breaks or during the summer. Consider your God-given gifts and creatively use them by being involved in your local church's ministry. You will find that there are countless ways to invest your life, and in the process you will grow as well.

ASSISTANCE

If you need further assistance, please write, call or email:

Erskine College - Financial Aid Office
P. O. Box 337 Due West, SC 29639
allison.sullivan@erskine.edu (864) 379-8832

ERSKINE

C O L L E G E

ARP CHURCH MATCHING GRANT

Guidelines for Church Matching Grant Committee

The Erskine College ARP Church Matching Grant program provides a unique way for the local church to encourage its young people to attend a quality Christian college. In many cases, this grant from the church and Erskine's match can make the difference in a student being able to attend Erskine.

FORMING A COMMITTEE

The size of the church and the number of students attending, or wanting to attend Erskine, will dictate the best way to proceed in establishing a Church Matching Grant. In some cases, a financial representative of the church will be all that is necessary. In other situations, a Church Matching Grant Committee will best serve the students and the church. For the sake of establishing guidelines, which can be scaled down, the following information will be directed toward churches creating a committee to handle the grants:

Identify a representative group. Objectivity in decision making will be enhanced if members of this committee are selected from representatives of your congregation such as youth, Christian Education coordinators, deacons, elders, etc. The role of this committee is to:

1. Establish selection criteria.
2. Determine the amount each student is to receive.
3. Advertise the program.
4. Promote the program to encourage church participation.
5. Select potential recipients.
6. Submit the award application form to Erskine College Financial Aid Office by **May 1st** and assure that the payment is made to Erskine by **September 1st**.
7. Serve as a liaison between the church and Erskine College.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Establish criteria for selecting potential recipients.
- Decide on the amount each student is to receive. Remember that a church may give any amount and is encouraged to contribute generously to its students' Christian college expenses. However, the maximum amount that Erskine matches is \$2000 subject to the following limitations:
 - Students eligible for the Member of ARP Church Grant, ARP Church Matching Grant, Child of Alumni Grant, may receive any combination of these not to exceed \$3,000 in Erskine funds.
 - Students eligible for the Member of ARP Church Grant, ARP Church Matching, and Child of Alumni Grants may receive a combination of these not to exceed \$3,000 in Erskine funds.
- Select students meeting the church's and Erskine's established criteria. (Remember to consider helping children of your missionaries.)
- Determine if an award or recognition day would be appropriate to publicly acknowledge each student who will be receiving a grant from the church.
- Decide if you will interview potential recipients.

PROMOTION

- Encourage donors to contribute to the church matching grant account and not to individual students. Your committee should independently decide the amount of the church gift and the recipient.
- Encourage your church members to participate by communicating the value of a Christian college experience.
- **NOTE:** This program is not intended for parents or relatives to have their tuition contributions matched. Neither are parents permitted to direct their gifts to each others' children. To help your church establish a Church Matching Grant program, the following policy statement is offered as a guideline for parents' and/or student's involvement:

If a church board establishes a matching grant fund and no recipient or parent of a recipient is part of the initial decision-making process, undesignated contributions from parents and/or students can be made to the fund. If the parent of a potential matching grant recipient is a member of the church board, he or she must not participate in the matching grant approval process or policy determination activities.

Erskine strongly urges each church participating in the matching grant program to check with its tax advisor to determine the appropriateness of contributions from parents of students or students themselves to the church's matching grant fund.

FORMS SUBMITTED

- Submit the award application form by May 1st - earlier, if possible!
- It is extremely important that the award application form be postmarked no later than May 1 for the student to be eligible to receive the Erskine match. In assembling the financial aid package for a student, the Financial Aid Office can provide a more accurate award for the student if it has the information by May 1st
- In addition, all award application forms will be marked on the date received, and the match from Erskine will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

NOTE: Although the deadline for the award application form is May 1st there are limited funds available for this program. Once that amount is allocated, the gift from the church cannot be matched even if the May 1st deadline is met. Therefore, it is extremely important that the award application form be completed and mailed to the Financial Aid Office immediately. If the church contribution is not received by September 1st of the award year, Erskine College *will not* match the contribution.

The Erskine College Financial Aid Office staff is available to assist in any way possible. Feel free to write or call:

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Erskine College
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