



PROJECT:

Central Michigan University Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Student Funding Initiative

REPORT: Initial 30-Day Report

REPORT DATE: May 22, 2020

1. Acknowledgement: Central Michigan University acknowledges that it signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement on April 22, 2020 and assures it has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Signed: *Kirk Yats*
Title: Kirk M. Yats, Director – Scholarships & Financial Aid

2. Total of funds received by CMU for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students	\$7,161,097
3. Total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to Students as of date of report	\$3,647,500
4. Estimated total number of students eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students	10,639
5. Total number of Students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to Students	7,295

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act

Initial award – a need-based student grant of \$500 was awarded based on the following eligibility criteria:

- Undergraduate students admitted to Mt. Pleasant campus
- Eligible for Title IV funds demonstrated through the filing of a 2019-20 FAFSA
- Enrolled in courses after 3/13/2020
- Demonstrated need defined as Expected Family Contribution is less than annual academic budget

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

See attached email communications to students or visit the CARES Act information website below:

https://www.cmich.edu/fas/fsr/student_acct_university_billing/Pages/CARES_Act.aspx

From: "Bob Davies, CMU President" <president@cmich.edu>

Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 1:55 PM

To:

Subject: CARES Act funding for students



OFFICE *of the* PRESIDENT

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Dear students,

As you may have heard, the federal government has made funds available to colleges and universities, through the CARES Act, to address the financial hardships resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Central Michigan University will receive approximately \$14 million from this Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, and the U.S. Department of Education recently released guidance as to how these funds may be used.

The first half of these funds will be provided to students who have experienced financial challenges during the crisis. These funds can help students with expenses incurred when campus operations were disrupted due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care.

CMU will distribute these funds to students with demonstrated financial need, and we have developed the following initiatives to provide support:

- Main campus undergraduate students who were registered in the spring 2020 semester; who qualify for financial aid; and whose cost-of-attendance is greater than the Expected Family Contribution determined by their FAFSA — Free Application for Federal Student Aid — **will receive \$500 through an undergraduate need-based student grant.**
 - Students do not need to apply for this grant.
 - The grant will be provided to eligible students according to the **refund preferences** they selected with **Student Account Services and University Billing**.
 - Most eligible students will receive their funds by **Friday, May 15.**
 - Students who have not yet filed a 2019-20 FAFSA may do so before June 30 in order to qualify for need-based aid.
 - This money will not be applied to tuition, fees or any outstanding balances.
- CMU also will set aside a portion of the funds for a **CMU CARES Student Assistance Fund.**
 - Students may apply for assistance beginning **May 18**, and grants will be awarded based on individual need.
 - Funds will be distributed weekly beginning **May 27.**
 - This assistance will be available to main campus undergraduate students who have completed a FAFSA.
 - We will send a link to the application form by **May 18.**

The second half the CARES Act funds may be used to offset costs incurred by the university due to the COVID-19 crisis. To date, we have not received a timeline from the federal government to know when we will receive these funds, and we await clear guidance as

to how those funds may be used.

If you have questions about the CARES Act funding, please email cmucaresact@cmich.edu.

We know many of you have been negatively affected by COVID-19 and its impact on our region, and we will continue to look for ways to support you throughout the year. In all we do, your success and well-being are our top priorities.

Take care,
Bob Davies

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From: Student Account Services and University Billing <recacct@cmich.edu>

Sent: Monday, May 11

To:

Subject: FW: CARES Act Emergency Grant on its way!



CARES Act funds coming your way!

A \$500 emergency grant has been credited to your student account today. As provided for by the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF), you were automatically eligible for these funds and are not required to take any action to receive the grant.

Funds will be received as early as Friday, May 15. Please immediately verify that your **refund method** is correct as these funds are scheduled for direct deposit to your refund preference on file with **BankMobile**.

What if I have a balance owed to CMU? The full amount of the grant will be refunded to you. No funds can or will be applied to student account balances. **Please continue to work to resolve your outstanding student account balance.** Review your student account and reach out to the **Student Service Court** to create a financial plan.

CentralLink

If you have additional need as a result of disruptions related to Covid-19, you will be eligible to apply for the CMU CARES Student Assistance Fund. **Additional information with a link to an application for these grants will be sent Monday, May 18.**

Don't forget the **CMU Summer Extra Credit Program** is a great way to to **save \$1500 on 9 credits this summer!**

Student Account Services and University Billing

Bovee UC 119 | billing@cmich.edu | 989-774-3618

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From: Student Account Services and University Billing <recacct@cmich.edu>

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 8:30 AM

To:

Subject: CMU CARES Student Assistance Fund



You are eligible to apply for assistance

The federal government recently made funds available to colleges and universities, through the CARES Act, to address financial hardships resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Central Michigan University received funding from the CARES Act's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund and is following the U.S. Department of Education guidelines for how these funds may be used. To date, CMU has provided grants for over 7,000 undergraduate students to assist with expenses during the interrupted school year.

CMU also has set aside a portion of the funds for the **CMU CARES Student Assistance Fund**. These funds can help students with expenses incurred when campus operations were disrupted due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and childcare.

Eligible students may apply to the CMU CARES Student Assistance Fund beginning **May 18**, and grants will be awarded based on individual need.

- On-campus undergraduate and graduate students who completed a FAFSA and are Title IV eligible may apply.
- Awards will be distributed weekly beginning **May 27**.
- **Please note:** Any funds awarded will be supplied to you using the [refund preferences](#) you selected with Student Account Services and University Billing. Department of Education guidelines stipulate that universities may not directly apply these funds to any existing student account balance.

You are receiving this email because you are qualified to apply; however, qualification to apply does not assure that funds will be awarded. Funding is limited, and students will be considered on the basis of the application, need and time of submission. You will receive notification via e-mail whether or not you were awarded funds.

- You will be notified within 7-10 business days following submission of your application.
- Please do not contact our office for your status related to this award until at least 10 business days have passed.

[Apply Here](#)

[Student Account Services and University Billing](#)
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