

To: Montgomery College Students and the College Community
From: Dr. Monica R.M. Brown, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs
Subject: **Federal CARES Act Emergency Assistance Grants for Students**
Date: May 8, 2020

Many of our students are experiencing significant financial and personal crises due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Montgomery College (MC) and the Montgomery College Foundation quickly reached out to students in the past several weeks with an emergency assistance fund, and more than 1,200 students benefited from this critical financial assistance to help complete the spring semester.

The College has received funding through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This fund provides direct assistance for students in the form of emergency grants for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 crisis. They can be used for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.

How to Apply for Assistance

The College's financial aid office has begun the process of distributing grants to some of our lowest-income students who were eligible for Pell grants this spring semester. Other students who meet the eligibility requirements for federal (Title IV) financial aid may also apply for assistance. **If you are still enrolled at the College, go to this link on our coronavirus information page and complete a simple [application](#).**

Because students must be eligible to receive federal financial aid, priority will be given at this time to students who filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with MC for either the 2019-2020 or the 2020-2021 academic years. Unfortunately, students who are not eligible for federal financial aid (such as Maryland Dreamers, DACA students, high school students taking college classes, or students studying under F1 visas) are not eligible for this federal assistance.

Other Sources of Assistance

The MC Foundation continues to consider applications for emergency assistance from College funds. If you are not eligible for the federal CARES Act grant, you may complete an [application](#) for the College fund. Montgomery County also has an [emergency relief program](#) for all residents.

I hope that one of these funds will be able to assist you during this difficult time. If you have questions about the CARES Act grant, please contact CARES@montgomerycollege.edu.

Stay safe and be well.