

## **CARES ACT EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID DISTRIBUTION PROCESS**

MSU will distribute its allocation for emergency financial aid from the federal Education Stabilization Fund pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act through the following three phase process.

### **Phase 1 – Immediate Assistance Grant (\$1.5 million)**

The Immediate Assistance Grant is designed to provide immediate relief to our students with significant financial need for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Immediate Assistance Grants in the amount of \$250 will be automatically awarded and immediately distributed to students who meet all of the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled as an undergraduate, degree-seeking student at MSU;
- Not enrolled exclusively in online programs; and
- Have an expected family contribution of less than \$12,001.

### **Phase 2 – COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant (\$3.7 million)**

The COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant is designed to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.

Grants will be awarded to assist undergraduate or graduate students who are experiencing financial hardship caused or exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. Grants may be awarded to students who meet all of the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled as a degree-seeking student at MSU;
- Eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
- Not enrolled exclusively in online programs;
- Have documented financial need or hardship due to coronavirus (e.g., substantial expenditures or loss of income, low expected family contribution, inability to pay for expenses included in the cost of attendance, etc.); and
- Have made reasonable use of other sources of support.

Students may apply for a COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant by submitting to the Office of Student Financial Aid a completed application by May 15. Applicants who have not already submitted a 2019-2020 FAFSA form must also submit a FAFSA form by May 15 to verify Title IV eligibility.

After May 15, the application will be reviewed by a COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant Review Committee, which will be composed of members appointed by the University President. The Committee may require additional information or documentation to support a student's application.

COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grants are not renewable. Award amounts will be determined based on a student's eligibility and circumstances but will not exceed \$1,000 per application.

### **Phase 3 – Housing Assistance Grant (\$1.7 million)**

The Residence Hall Housing Assistance Grant is designed to provide relief to our students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Residence Hall Housing Assistance Grants in the amount of \$674 will be automatically awarded and immediately distributed to students who meet all the following criteria:

- Enrolled as a degree-seeking student at MSU during the Spring 2020 term;
- Eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
- Not enrolled exclusively in an online program on or before March 13, 2020; and
- Had an active Spring 2020 housing contract on or before March 13, 2020.

A Housing Assistance Grant of \$800 will also be allocated to MSU athletes who experienced reductions to their summer 2020 housing stipends as a result of disruptions to campus operations due to the coronavirus. These Housing Assistance Grants will be automatically awarded and immediately distributed to MSU athletes who meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled as a degree-seeking student at MSU during the Spring 2020 term;
- Eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
- Not enrolled exclusively in an online program on or before March 13, 2020;
- Experienced a reduction in Spring 2020 housing stipend; and
- Did not receive a Residence Hall Housing Assistance Grant.