

Dear Holmes Community College Student,

Congress recently passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which will deliver emergency financial assistance to Holmes Community College students in the form of funds to be further distributed to students and used to cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

The US Department of Education has stated that recipients must be Title IV eligible which include the following:

- must be meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements
- must not be in default on a student loan
- males between the ages of 18-26 must have registered with Selective Service
- must have a valid social security number
- must be a citizen of the US or an eligible non-citizen
- other criteria may be forthcoming as guidelines are being released constantly

If you were enrolled exclusively in online courses as of March 13, you will not be eligible for any of these funds.

Our best method of gathering data on all of our students and determining which of those students meet the criteria above is by requiring the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2019-20. We strongly suggest that you go to <a href="https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa">https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa</a> and file your FAFSA for 2019-20 using your 2017 tax information prior to May 15, 2020. If you do not complete the FAFSA by the deadline stated, you will not be eligible for consideration of these funds.