

*****NMC EMPLOYEE & STUDENT UPDATE May 19, 2020—RE: CARES Act Student
Emergency Grants*****

Dear NMC Community,

I hope this communication finds you well. Summer courses have officially begun online and we are deep into planning for fall. We know this is a hard time for everyone and that any clarification helps. So while we are not 100% sure of what our fall semester may entail, we are doing everything we can to ensure that the campus will be open this fall. Your safety is our number one concern as we continue to provide the excellent health care education NMC is known for!

Update on Fall Semester Planning:

We will have a fall semester re-opening plan by June 1, which will provide academic, clinical, operational, and health and safety details. In general: Plan A- returning on campus with restrictions, Plan B- on campus but prepared to return to online course delivery should we need to, and Plan C- begin fall semester online. K-12 is looking like it will be different depending on the districts; some schools having kids come two days a week so they can social distance. This means our students and faculty/staff will likely still have kids at home part- or full-time, so flexibility will be key. Rest assured we are considering these things.

This week, we are looking at campus room capacities and setups, and with current physical distancing guidelines, room capacities and setups are looking dramatically different. No longer can 30 students fill in a room with three to a table. Once we know room capacities and setups, we will need to revise the fall schedule with options for both face-to-face and online course delivery. We are working to get all classrooms set up for both face-to-face and online course delivery.

CARES Act Student Emergency Funding Information:

The CARES federal stimulus package signed into law on March 27, 2020, awarded Nebraska Methodist College (NMC) federal funds that are intended to be passed along to enrolled students who have suffered expenses incurred as a result of the disruption to campus operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Qualifying expenses may include food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, childcare, and other basic needs. NMC has received approximately \$557,000 from the CARES Act, of which no less than 50% will be made available for impacted students. Beginning May 20, 2020, NMC will begin Phase I of distributing CARES Act emergency funding. The Business Office will be notifying students via their NMC email account if they are eligible for Phase I funding.

Eligibility is based on being a currently enrolled student, qualified to receive federal financial aid (have a FASFA on file and meet federal Title IV eligibility criteria), and have a financial need due to expense incurred as a result of disruption to campus operations. International students, students enrolled in non-credit courses, and students enrolled only in online courses are not eligible. If a student has not completed a 2019-20 FASFA and would like to be considered for CARES Act emergency funding, they may submit a FASFA application at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> until June 30, 2020.

A financial need calculation was used to determine a student's initial disbursement amount. The calculation involved review of data from the Office of Financial Aid as well as other institutional data including but not limited to academic program disruption, interruption of on campus services and programs use, and interference with on campus student group work. NMC has approximately 540 Title IV eligible on campus students with 94% of those students having been initially identified as eligible to receive emergency grant funds.

If a student does not receive initial CARES Act emergency funding or if a student receives funding, and in either case, is experiencing extreme financial need due to expenses related to disruption of campus operations, NMC will initiate Phase 2 funding beginning June 5, 2020. Students are then invited to apply

for emergency funding through the [COVID-19 Student Needs Form](#). NMC will review applications for the extreme financial emergencies portion of the funds and issue disbursements accordingly.

NMC's food pantry remains open and available for curbside pickup. Students may access the order form [here](#). NMC has a Student Crisis Fund that can assist with payment of non-tuition bills. Please contact Dean Tickle, Vice President of Business and Operations at Dean.Tickle@methodistcollege.edu for a Student Crisis Fund application. Free, confidential counseling to currently enrolled students is available by virtual appointments by contacting Kathy Dworak at Kathy.Dworak@methodistcollege.edu. The Student Assistance Program (SAP) also offers free, confidential counseling and available 24/7/365 for students, their spouse, or dependents at 866-776-6233 or 402-354-8020 and www.BestcareEAP.org. The Campus Health Center remains open by appointment only by calling 402-354-7211.

Take care and be well NMC,

Deb Carlson

Deb Carlson, Ph.D.
President & CEO
Nebraska Methodist College



COVID-19 CARES ACT Emergency Funding

Did NMC Receive COVID-19 CARES Act Emergency Funds?

The CARES Act federal stimulus package, signed into law on March 27, 2020, awarded Nebraska Methodist College a total of \$557,892 in federal funds. NMC has signed and returned the U.S. Department of Education's Certification and Agreement, which stipulates that no less than 50% of this allocation will be used to provide emergency grants to students. These emergency grants are intended for students who have incurred expenses as a result of the disruption to campus operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligibility for COVID-19 CARES Act Emergency Funds.

The COVID-19 Emergency Grants are available to Title IV-eligible on-campus students currently enrolled who incurred unexpected expenses related to the disruption of campus operations resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. A student is Title-IV eligible if they have filed a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) with the U.S. Department of Education and been approved to receive federal aid.

The emergency funds will be distributed to students based on financial need. NMC's Financial Aid Office and Office of Institutional Effectiveness will identify students who are eligible for the funds and contact them via the student's NMC email address. NMC has approximately 540 Title IV eligible on campus students with 94% of those students having been initially identified as eligible to receive emergency funds.

PHASE 1: May 22, 2020 - June 5, 2020

How will COVID-19 CARES Act Emergency Funds be distributed?

No action is required to receive these funds. If the student is set up for direct deposit, the funds will be deposited into the student's bank account. If not, the Business Office will mail a check to the address listed in the student's account. We continue to work out the timing details on this funding. However, expect it to be deposited into your account within the next two weeks, provided your direct deposit information is on file.

PHASE 2: Beginning June 5, 2020

What if I didn't receive initial funding and am experiencing extreme financial difficulties?

Students that did not receive initial emergency funding and are experiencing extreme financial difficulties due to COVID-19 are invited to apply for emergency funding through the [COVID-19 Student Needs Form](#). NMC will review applications for the extreme financial emergencies portion of the funds.

Students should be prepared to briefly describe the details of the unexpected expenses due to COVID-19 and report the total for each expense category: food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, childcare, and other expenses.

What if I received initial funding but am experiencing extreme financial difficulties?

Students who received initial emergency funding and are experiencing extreme financial difficulties are invited to apply for additional emergency funding through the [COVID-19 Student Needs Form](#). NMC will review applications for the extreme financial emergencies portion of the funds.

Students should be prepared to briefly describe the details of the unexpected expenses due to COVID-19 and report the total for each expense category: food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, childcare, and other expenses.