

May 20, 2020

Turtle Mountain Community College Reporting for CARES Act Section 18004(a)(1) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students

1. On April 11, 2020, the Turtle Mountain Community College signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution 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 Title IV eligible students.

2. The College received **\$473,968.00** from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

3. Of those funds, 80% of the total amount has been distributed to students as of the May 1, 2020. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to date is **\$377,300.00**. This amount was dispersed on **May 1, 2020**. The remaining 20% of the total amount, \$96,668.00 will be disbursed during the Summer and Fall 2020 session to enrolled Title IV eligible students.

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is **397**.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is **397**.

6. To determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, TMCC determined that the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to students based on the following methodology: Funds will be distributed to Title IV eligible, degree-seeking students based upon current enrollment and satisfactory academic progress as of March 14, 2020. The amount awarded to students was as follows:

- \$245.00 Less than half-time (1-5 credits)
- \$490.00 Half-time (6-8 credits)
- \$735.00 ¾ time (9-11 credits)
- \$980.00 Full-time (12+ credits)

7. A letter accompanied the check dispersed to students and was sent to all students outlining the provisions for the use of the funds (see letter below).

Good afternoon students,

I hope this email finds you well and safe as you prepare for your final exams. As we informed you earlier in the semester, we are preparing for disbursement of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Below is a note from the US Department of Education Guidance for disbursing these funds:

"The CARES Act, which establishes and funds the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), directs institutions of higher education to use no less than 50% of funds received under Sections 18004(a)(1) and 18004(c) of the CARES Act to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus".

TMCC will disburse these funds on Friday, May 1, 2020 to all **regular** TMCC Students enrolled on the effective date March 14, 2020, the date we announced our movement from face to face instruction to a completely online format. Unfortunately, this will not include dual credit or non-degree seeking students. We will be working to provide needed supports for these students through other avenues. Based upon guidance for allowable funding to students outlined in the guidance, we have based funding on credits enrolled in effective March 14, 2020. This date is when notification to TMCC students, staff and faculty of the move to online learning in response to the coronavirus crisis.

By accepting and accessing these funds through withdrawal of funds or cashing of checks serves as certification by the student that the funds will be used for the allowable expenses that include **food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.**

The funding amounts are as follows:

1-5 Credits = Less than 1/2 time - \$245.00

6--8 Credits = Half Time - \$490.00

9-11 Credits = 3/4 Time - \$735.00

12 or more credits = Full Time - \$980.00

Direct deposits for students who have this set up will be in accounts on Friday, May 1, 2020. Those who do not have direct deposit set up will be able to pick up checks beginning at 9:00am on Friday May 1, 2020. We will be enforcing social distancing with security guiding students to check pick-up.

We know this has been an extremely difficult time for our students and we are working every day to make sure we get through this difficult time as a TMCC family. We appreciate your patience during this time as you have waited for this much needed aid.