

*****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

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