



## **Monroe County Community College:**

### **CRRSAA - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting**

#### **April 1, 2021 – Quarterly Report**

Monroe County Community College (OPEID 002294) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act on April 17, 2020. On January 14, 2021 the U.S. Department of Education announced an additional \$22.7 billion available to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is allocated to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA).

MCCC's allocation of funding received through the CRRSAA is \$2,818,764. MCCC will use no less than \$650,258 received under Section 314(c)(3) of the CRRSAA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants directly to students.

The CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize students with *exceptional need*, such as students who receive Pell Grants, in awarding financial aid grants to students. To prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, MCCC has defined maximum award limits for students based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA, which is a standardized data element used to confirm financial need.

Based on MCCC's methodology of using the EFC from the FAFSA to prioritize students with exceptional need, the estimated total number of MCCC students 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 314(c)(3) of CRRSAA is 1171 students enrolled in the Winter 2021 semester.

As of April 1, 2021, MCCC has issued \$396,259 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants from CRRSAA funds directly to 286 MCCC students, based on the applications students have submitted to request these funds.

MCCC students must complete an application for Emergency Financial Aid Grants through the [AcademicWorks](#) scholarship portal. The application provides instructions to students that they must have a FAFSA on file with MCCC so that MCCC can prioritize students with exceptional need.

Eligibility for Emergency Financial Aid Grants for MCCC students is based on financial issues they have had or will face related to any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care) or child care. The MCCC HEERF Task Force developed the following guidelines for determining the Emergency Financial Aid Grant amounts:

To prioritize grants to students with exceptional need, MCCC has defined maximum award limits for students based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA, which is a standardized data element used to confirm financial need.

- Pell Eligible Students with a 0 EFC: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$2000
- Pell Eligible Students with an EFC between 1 and 5711: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$1500
- Title IV Eligible Students with an EFC greater than 5711: Maximum CRRSAA Award = \$1000

The following matrix represents guidelines to determine the amount of CRRSAA Grant funding to award per student, based on the expenses the student identifies on the AcademicWorks CRRSAA Grant application. Each student's situation will be evaluated individually based on the information in the student's application, with awards not to exceed the maximum award limits listed above.

- \$ TBD – Tuition / Fees (based on other tuition/fee restricted gift aid student is receiving)
- \$ 300 – Books
- \$ 750 – Housing
- \$ 250 – Food
- \$ 200 – Transportation
- \$ 400 – Health Care (including mental health care)
- \$ 400 – Child Care
- \$ 750 – Computer Purchase for Online Courses

Each student's situation is evaluated individually based on the information provided in the student's application, and MCCC maintains the flexibility to increase the amount awarded per eligible expense to each student on a case-by-case basis.

MCCC students were notified about the availability of these Emergency Financial Aid Grants, the requirement to have a FAFSA on file, and the application to apply for the funds via a press release, email notifications, text messages, the MCCC website and social media postings.