

Dear Students,

Under the CARES Act (Sections 18004(a)(1) and 18004(c)), which establishes and funds the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), eligible students are to be provided with emergency financial aid grants for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus health emergency.

SUNY Maritime College's funding has been approved pursuant to the Funding Certification and Agreement for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. Our institution's award disbursement methodology has also been approved by the State of NY Department of Budget. SUNY Maritime College has distributed no Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of June 9, 2020 since the funding has not been made available. Our institution will be making every attempt to ensure a speedy processing time of the awards once the funding becomes available and the appropriate documentation, as described below, has been collected from the students and reviewed.

SUNY Maritime College has determined 1,154 estimated students at the institution are eligible for the program 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.

SUNY Maritime plans to award CARES Emergency Grants according to the following methodology based on two block grants that are consistent with federal regulations and SUNY Guidance:

**CARES Base Grant** of \$470-670 awarded to *all eligible students* who incurred or anticipate to incur expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

- \$670 grants – awarded to students who have a FAFSA on file, demonstrate high financial need (Pell eligible), and are enrolled for Spring 2020 semester
- \$470 grants – awarded to students who have a FAFSA on file, demonstrate financial need, and are enrolled for Spring 2020 semester
- Eligible Students will be invited to apply by email to complete the Certification and Attestation form for CARES Base Emergency Grant.  
**Deadline is July 10.**

**CARES Enhanced Grant** is awarded to *eligible students* for expenses already incurred, or anticipated to incur that are related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus that are in **excess** of the Base Grant amount.

- Eligible students who wish to apply for the enhanced grant should fill out the Application for [CARES Act Enhanced Emergency Grant](#). Students enrolled for

Spring 2020 who wish to apply for the CARES Student Emergency Grant and do not have a FAFSA on file should file a 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 FAFSA at [www.fasfsa.gov](http://www.fasfsa.gov). **Deadline is August 10.**

In order to ensure an equitable distribution of funds, the **maximum** award a student can receive – when adding both the Base and Enhanced Grant – is \$2,000.

Applications for Enhanced Grants will be evaluated by the Financial Aid Office, and may be approved or denied based upon whether the request is permissible under the CARES Act. The college reserves the right to request additional documentation and receipts as deemed appropriate. Disbursement of Enhanced Grant funding is contingent on funding availability.

If you have any questions, email us at [cares\\_grants@sunymaritime.edu](mailto:cares_grants@sunymaritime.edu)

Sincerely,

Office of Financial Aid  
SUNY Maritime College