

May 11, 2020

Dear ASU Mid-South Student:

I hope you and your loved ones healthy and safe in the midst of this global pandemic. These are truly trying times, and your ASU Mid-South family wants you to know that we care deeply about your well-being.

ASU Mid-South recently received funds through the federal CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act which allows us to provide emergency financial aid grants directly to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Allowable expenses include those associated with the cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, and childcare. Funds may not be used for other purposes.

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grant Eligibility

To be eligible to receive these funds, students must have been enrolled as degree-seeking students in on-ground (as opposed to exclusively online) coursework as of March 13, 2020, our last day of on-campus operations. An eligible student must also be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen; have a valid Social Security number; be registered with the Selective Service (if the student is male); and have an earned high school diploma, GED, or certified completion of high school in an approved homeschool setting. Non-degree seeking students, concurrently enrolled high school students, and students who are on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) suspension for Title IV Financial Aid are not eligible for these funds.

The amount of money students receive will be based upon the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) determined by their current Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), as well as the number of hours in which they are enrolled.

What We Need From You

- 1) Complete a 2019-20 FAFSA as soon as possible by going to <u>www.fafsa.ed.gov</u> (Click *Start Here*, and be sure to select 2019-20 year in the drop-down box.);
- 2) Submit a certification form, available here: <u>www.asumidsouth.edu/cares</u>.

The deadline to complete both the FAFSA and the certification process is Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

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Once we have processed <u>both</u> your completed FAFSA and your certification, grant funds will be direct deposited (for those students who have that information already on file with the Finance Office) or mailed to your home address on file in our Registrar's Office. It is important that you verify the accuracy of that address and notify the Registrar's Office, <u>admissions@asumidsouth.edu</u>, as soon as possible of any needed changes.

We anticipate being able to award funds to eligible, certified students by June 1, 2020.

All of us at ASU Mid-South are proud of you and the resilience you've shown during this unprecedented time in our history. If you are graduating, congratulations! If not, we look forward to seeing you next semester. All the best to you, now and in the future. Please stay safe!

Sincerely,

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Debra West, Ph. D. Chancellor, Arkansas State University Mid-South