

CARES Act Emergency Grants to Students

Northern State University has entered into an agreement with the US Department of Education by signing and returning a Certification and Agreement to receive funding through the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act). The institution has agreed to provide at least 50% of the funds received through the CARES Act as Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. NSU will receive up to \$329,889 to be disbursed as these Emergency Grants to Students.

Emergency Grant awards are to be used by students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.

In order to apply for an Emergency Grant, a student must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Have submitted a 2019-20 FAFSA and meet eligibility requirements to qualify for federal financial aid
- Not be in all on-line classes during the 2020 Spring Semester (prior to converting all classes to online)
- Be enrolled at least halftime during the 2020 Spring Semester
- Not be on financial aid suspension

Students who meet the above requirements were sent an email from the NSU Financial Aid Office with a link to the online application. Students must submit the online application, answering the questions in reference to the type of expenses incurred and an estimated dollar amount of those expense. An institutional committee will review the applications and determine a dollar amount to award, taking into consideration funding availability and student requests. Award amounts will range from \$250-\$1500, with exceptions made for extraordinary circumstances.

Based on the eligibility requirements for the program listed above, there are 958 students enrolled during the 2020 Spring Semester who may qualify to receive these funds.

As of May 21, 2020, NSU has disbursed \$263,000 in Emergency Grants to 229 students.