From: UTC News on behalf of Stafford, Gina
To: UTCNEWS@RAVEN.UTC.EDU

Subject: [UTCNEWS] Student Emergency Relief Funds

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 4:21:02 PM

-Sent on behalf of Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Brown and Vice Chancellor Yancy Freeman

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga will receive \$9,513,779 from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) created as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Half of these funds must be used exclusively to support students facing urgent needs created by the coronavirus pandemic through emergency financial aid grants for expenses incurred as a result of the disruption of campus operations. The student portion will be distributed through Block Grant Awards and the Student Emergency Fund. The other half of these funds must be used to offset expenses the institution has absorbed related to the coronavirus pandemic and to supplement additional student aid, if needed.

Student Block Grant Awards

The University will distribute funds to eligible students through Block Grant Awards. The Block Grant Awards will not be applied to outstanding balances on student MyMocsNet accounts. Student eligibility for the Block Grant Award is limited to students enrolled in the Spring 2020 semester who meet the following criteria:

- Students must be eligible for Title IV aid as determined by the 2019-2020 FAFSA. This includes meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards and resolving any outstanding eligibility requirements from the FAFSA.
- Students must not be enrolled in a program that is conducted exclusively online as of March 13, 2020. Students whose program is not exclusively online, but who were enrolled in all online Spring 2020 courses as of March 13, 2020, are not eligible for a Block Grant Award but may apply for aid through the Student Emergency Fund process outlined below.

The University has already determined eligibility for the Block Grant Awards. Students do not need to complete a separate application to receive them. Eligible students will receive the following awards based on their Expected Family Contribution (EFC) range:

Group	EFC Range	Award
Undergraduate Students	0-5,576	\$1,000
Undergraduate Students	5,577-15,000	\$650

Graduate Students 0-1,000 5500	Graduate Students	0-1,000	\$300
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Eligible students will receive an email notification. The Block Grant Award will be posted to their MyMocsNet account on Friday, May 1. Students signed-up for ACH deposit will receive the refunds on May 1 or soon thereafter. If a student is not signed-up for ACH deposit, the Bursar's Office will mail the refund checks to the student on May 1.

If they have not done so already, students are encouraged to sign-up for an ACH deposit. This can be done by completing the following: Log into your MyMocsNet account> Click on the Money tab> Click on Go to My Account> Click on Electronic Refunds near the top right of the page> Click on the Refunds tab and complete the steps to create the account. If a student does not have an ACH set up and does not wish to create one, the student must be sure his or her postal mailing address is updated. Students can do this by completing the following steps: Login into your MyMocsNet account> Click on the Resources tab> Click on the Update Addresses and Phones option and complete the steps to update the information.

Student Emergency Fund

The University will make additional funds available from the HEERF through the existing Student Emergency Fund. Students are eligible to apply for these additional emergency funds for the following reasons, on an as-needed basis, if they have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, are Title IV aid eligible, and are not enrolled in a program that is exclusively online:

- Essential academic needs (e.g. books and supplies);
- Replacement of lost personal items due to the coronavirus pandemic;
- Housing needs (e.g. securing short-term housing, security deposits, assistance with utilities, etc.);
- One-time / non-recurring medical expenses;
- Emergency expenses related to dependents (e.g. childcare); or
- Other allowable expenses outlined by the CARES Act and any subsequent allowable expense guidance offered by the U.S. Department of Education.

Questions about the Student Emergency Fund should be directed to the Office of Student Outreach and Support by calling 423-425-2299 or by emailing <u>SEF@utc.edu</u>.

Please continue to check <u>utc.edu/coronavirus</u> for updates and notices about any additional information about the developing health crisis.

GO MOCS!

Dr. Richard Brown Dr. Yancy Freeman Executive Vice Chancellor Vice Chancellor

Administration and Finance

Enrollment Management and Student Affairs