

# SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE



## CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Frequently Asked Questions

### ***Am I eligible for a CARES Act grant?***

- To be eligible for CARES Act grant funds you must meet two criteria. You must meet Title IV eligibility requirements even if you did not file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and you must have incurred costs related to the disruption of your education. The full eligibility requirements are detailed in the CARES Act self-certification on the My Profile tab of PrideNET.

### ***What can I use the grant for?***

- CARES Act grant funds are intended to **reimburse** you for expenses you incurred as a result of the disruption of your education. Those expenses can include food, emergency housing, health care, child care, technology, course materials, and transportation.

### ***Is the CARES Act grant taxable?***

- The most recent information indicates that the CARES Act grant funds are not taxable, but you should consult with a licensed tax preparer.

### ***When will I receive my grant funds?***

- Assuming you met the eligibility requirements and accepted the terms of the self-certification you can expect to receive your CARES Act grant funds by mid-June.

### ***How was the grant calculated?***

- Using guidance from the US Education Department, a committee at Springfield College developed a formula to distribute the funds as widely as possible, at the same time making the grants meaningful.

### ***Can Springfield College use the grant funds to reduce my balance due?***

- No, CARES Act grant funds are intended to be disbursed directly to students. We are not allowed to keep the funds to reduce a balance due, even with your permission.

### ***Where can I see the amount of my CARES Act grant?***

- If eligible CARES Act grants are listed as on the award menu of My Financial Aid.

### ***Are CARES Act grants to be reported on my FAFSA?***

- No, CARES Act grant funds are not counted as income for purposes of calculating an Expected Family Contribution (EFC).