

Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 24

April 10, 2020

Good Friday Afternoon!

A lot has happened in the last 24 hours. Yesterday afternoon I received the Department of Education's long-awaited notification about the pending federal fund allocations from Stimulus Package 3. Thanks to all of the college memberships we have, I received several notices, including a phone call from Senator Stabenow's office, when the funds were released. MCC is eligible to access 50% of the funding now to support our students who are struggling financially due to campus operations disrupted by the coronavirus. The Department of Education has shared criteria for higher education institutions to develop a system and process for allocating the funds within one year of accessing the funds. Criteria for utilizing the 50% designated for higher education institutions is still being developed. Disbursing these funds to our students is a top priority. We know our students are challenged and want them to have the funds for relief as soon as possible. Below is the notification we received for MCC's allocation:

Allocations for Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act			
OPEID	School	Total Allocation	Minimum Allocation to be Awarded for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students
00226100	Charles Stewart Mott Community College	\$5,378,749	\$2,689,375

I had the opportunity to thank Senator Stabenow's office this morning and share my thoughts about the needs for Stimulus Package 4 that is currently being worked on. Please take the time to send a thank you email to Senator Stabenow, Senator Peters, and Representative Kildee for the great work they have done in securing funding for our students and Mott Community College.

Senator Debbie Stabenow: Senator@stabenow.senate.gov

Senator Gary Peters: Senator@peters.senate.gov

Congressman Dan Kildee: MI05DKima@mail.house.gov

The pending funding is great news for our students. But our Mott Eats Food Pantry is bare and we still have orders coming in for deliveries. I am told the food supply at The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan is low as well. Please continue to donate to Mott Eats. The need still remains for our students. Contact Dinah Schaller at 810-814-2308 to help.

The funding also doesn't ensure our students will finish their courses this winter semester or continue on to complete their degrees and certificates. As you know, many are stressed out, stretched thin, and juggling chaotic home environments. They are mentally taxed and challenged. As I have shared in earlier Communications, they have stated to me in emails, "I

didn't sign up for this." Tele-learning can be extremely difficult for some to master, and this crisis has threatened to dash the progress they were making to a better future. We need them to complete not only this winter semester, but also their desired degrees and certificates.

Our current students need the encouragement and confidence that they are going to make it to the finish line. They need to be reminded that they are amazingly resilient. They are strivers, achievers, and completers. They have faced serious challenges before and have overcome them. Moving through these circumstances will be no different. Our students need to know we care, and that we are encouraging them to finish strong. Mott Strong! Think about the students with whom you have built a relationship and use your social media, email, phone numbers, etc. to encourage them to finish winter and get signed up for summer and fall. Let them know that we are here for their success.

We also need to let our community members and prospective students know that we are open for business and ready to teach and train this summer and fall. I always cut my eyes when someone asks me, so when is Mott going to open again? We are open and doing an amazing job transforming into a virtual institution. I am asking each of us to use social media, student networks, professional networks, family and friends to spread the message that it is time to enroll for summer and fall classes at Mott Community College.

Vital Information to share:

- Summer enrollment starts April 15. There will be one online 12-week summer session that begins May 26 and ends Aug 20. One of the uses for the stimulus funding will be to ensure that students taking the online courses have the necessary technology and virtual wrap around services to support their success.
- Fall enrollment begins in May. The session will begin on September 8 and end December 23. We will offer face-to-face, online, and hybrid courses. We will be offering student funding from the stimulus package to offset coronavirus related expenses.
- Institutional Advancement prepared a video to post on social media, in emails, and texts. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-SpTWE2f2E>.

It is critical that each one of us understands the value of working together to keep our enrollment stabilized and our budget minimally impacted. Below are some other things to consider to get the word out.

- Talk to former students about coming back to MCC to finish their education. There is no time like the present to sign up for one or more of MCC's online offerings.
- Encourage your family and friends who are interested in pursuing higher education that the time is right to take that next step at one of the TOP COMMUNITY COLLEGES in the United States!

- If you know of a college student who normally attends another school (MSU, SVSU, Central, Eastern, UM-Ann Arbor, and others), please let them know to make summer count by joining us as a guest student.
- Deliver virtual MCC presentations to community groups.
- Make phone calls to prospective students who have shown interest in attending.

Please contact Director of Admissions, Regina Broomfield at regina.broomfield@mcc.edu or 810-762-0358, if you would like to give a presentation or make phone calls to prospective, former or guest students. She will be happy to have your support.

I will conclude with a shout out for Workforce and Economic Development, Job Development Specialist, Kathleen LaVallier. She is like all of us at MCC, working hard to ensure our students succeed so our community succeeds even though her work is now remote. Thanks to her due diligence, we had our first remote student hire. The position was marketed at \$16.00 per hour. He was hired at \$17.00 per hour and after training will make \$18.36. This student is a nontraditional student, returning to college after he realized he needed to do something to better himself. He said he is forever indebted to MCC.

Because of the work you do, we at MCC have a legacy that is strong and proud. We have a legacy of being a stable foundation, a safe haven, and an anchor institution for Flint and Genesee County. Thank you always for the work you do to equip our students for the best life possible.

Enjoy this beautiful weekend and encourage a student to finish and complete!

Looking Forward!

Dr. Beverly

Beverly Walker-Griffiea, Ph.D.
President
Mott Community College