

# CARES Act INFORMATION

## **August 10 Update**

The application for CARES Act and Foundation financial aid grants is available on the vvc.edu website. Early review of applications will be made August 18 for first distribution early in the Fall semester. The application will remain available through the semester as long as funds are available for distribution.

In addition, 500 laptops with TMobile internet connectivity have been made available with the college share of CARES Act funds. Students can indicate their need on the CARES Act portion of the website using the on-line application. First review will be August 18.

## **July 16, 2020 Update**

Victor Valley College disbursed an additional \$240,700 to 533 students, as described in Phase II below. The VVC Foundation distributed an additional \$38,600 to 386 students who applied as non-FAFSA eligible students.

## **18 June, 2020 Update**

Victor Valley College disbursed an additional \$651,600 to 1494 students, as described in Phase II below.

With the eligibility of these funds no longer restricted to Title IV eligibility and immigration status\*, the college will re-evaluate all current applicants and all students previously not awarded because of eligibility restrictions. We will make additional disbursements to those students who are now eligible.

These funds are provided to students who incur costs because of disruptions to learning and life disruptions as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The cash grants are intended to cover costs related to the current public emergency and should not be considered a “public benefit.”

- Students who have lost income due to campus jobs being suspended should seek relief for lost earnings through federal or state-funded COVID-19 related unemployment benefits rather than CARES Act emergency financial aid grants, because unemployment benefits are excluded from public charge determinations

- Non-citizen students concerned about potential public charge consequences should consult with an immigration attorney. Legal resources for undocumented students are identified on the Chancellor's Undocumented Students page <https://www.cccco.edu/Students/Support-Services/Special-population/Undocumented-Students>

\* On June 17, 2020 the United States District Court for the Northern District of California issued a preliminary injunction in the case entitled *Oakley v. DeVos*, Northern District of California Case No. 4:20-cv-03215 prohibiting the United States Department of Education from imposing any student eligibility restrictions on CARES Act funds provided by Congress.

### 21 May, 2020

Victor Valley College signed a Certificate of Agreement to receive \$8 million from the U.S. Department of Education through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") to support students and cover additional institutional expenses related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

\$4 million of this funding will be disbursed directly to eligible students to cover expenses related to the pandemic, disruption of the semester, and/or transfer to a remote learning platform.

- ~~Per Federal Regulations and criteria established in the CARES Act, only students who meet basic eligibility criteria for federal financial aid, and who are enrolled as of March 13, 2020 in face to face classes can be considered for these funds.~~
- ~~At VVC, currently 6,648 students receive federal financial aid.~~

~~To be eligibility for Federal Financial Aid, students must:~~

- ~~pursue a degree or certificate program that is eligible for Federal Financial Aid (ie. → 16 hours), and~~
- ~~register with Selective Service (Male students who are over the age of 18), and~~
- ~~possess a valid social security number, and~~
- ~~have a High School completion (diploma), GED, or homeschool certification, and~~  
~~———— must have met Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements, and~~  
~~———— students cannot be in loan repayment default or grant overpayment.~~

Recognizing that many of our students who are experiencing difficulties caused by COVID-19 may not be eligible to apply for Federal Financial Aid, the college has also identified \$250,000 in

grant dollars (thanks in large part to our VVC Foundation). Students will only be able to apply for grant funds from one funding source.

Both CARES Act and Institutional funds will be distributed to students in three phases:

WHAT	WHEN	HOW
<p>Phase I: \$1,391,900 distributed to 3,126 current FA students with “0” EFC, 6+ units, and meets SAP</p>	<p>* Awards have been posted to student FA accounts; funds were distributed May 21, 2020</p>	<p>* Check your FA account at <a href="#">WebAdvisor</a></p>
<p>Phase II: Funds will be distributed from two sources to students who complete an application form and indicate pandemic related need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. \$1,500,000 CARES Act funds to FA eligible students</li> <li>b. \$250,000 Institutional funds available to all VVC students whose classes were moved to remote learning and are struggling to successfully complete their classes (used for student financial aid grants, Chromebooks, housing and food support)</li> </ul>	<p>* \$651,600 was distributed on June 10 to 1494 Title IV eligible students who applied for a financial aid emergency grant.</p> <p>* \$240,700 was distributed on July 14 to 533 additional applicants for a financial aid emergency grant.</p> <p>* An additional \$38,600 in \$100 gift cards was distributed to 386 non-FAFSA eligible students who applied for a financial aid emergency grant.</p> <p>* The Application form continues to be available from the front page of the <a href="http://vvc.edu">vvc.edu</a> webpage</p>	<p>* Awards will be made to students who indicate a need based on pandemic disruption, as funds allow.</p> <p>* The amount of each award will depend upon the number of applications received.</p> <p>* We aim to accommodate every eligible student who indicates a need.</p>

<p>Phase III: Funds will be distributed from two sources to students who complete an application form and indicate need for assistance for the Fall semester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. \$1,000,000 CARES Act funds to FA eligible students (plus remaining funds from Phases I and II)</li><li>b. \$502,567 CARES Act – MSI (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Minority Serving Institutions grant)</li><li>c. 500 laptops with TMobile internet connection for two years (to access, students must submit application via CARES Act on the vvc.edu website)</li></ul>	<p>* Application will be available in early August, for the Fall 2020 semester.</p>	
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