

May 12, 2020

Dear <name>:

Earlier this spring, Congress passed the CARES Act to provide assistance to individuals and families impacted adversely by the COVID-19 emergency. One purpose of the money is to help college and university students whose lives were disrupted by the closure of campus operations. The role of Aurora University is to distribute emergency cash grants to students according to the terms set forth by the federal Department of Education.

I am pleased to inform you that you are eligible for such an emergency aid grant. These grant dollars are awarded to you for the purpose of providing emergency financial aid for your expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. You do not need to account for these dollars.

The university's role in this process is largely administrative. In this sense, AU is the conduit through which the federal dollars flow. Distribution decisions were made in accordance with guidelines for existing federal financial aid programs such as the Pell Grant Program. The law explicitly excluded online students, reasoning that their educational experiences were not disrupted by the virus.

Eligible students enrolled during the spring semester for 12 or more undergraduate credit hours will receive \$1,200.

Eligible students enrolled during the spring semester for 9 or more graduate credit hours will receive \$1,200.

Eligible students enrolled during the spring semester for fewer than 12 undergraduate credit hours will receive \$600.

Eligible students enrolled during the spring semester for fewer than 9 graduate credit hours will receive \$600.

Checks or eRefunds will be issued in the next 5-10 business days. To ensure your emergency grant reaches you as quickly as possible, please review your home address and bank account information via the Online Student Account Center portal. If you have any questions, please contact Student Accounts at **student.accts@aurora.edu** or **630-844-5470**.

Sincerely,

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Rebecca L. Sherrick, PhD President