

## Electronic Communication sent to Students for Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds

**From:** Thomas Blum <[tblum@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:tblum@sarahlawrence.edu)>

**Date:** Friday, May 8, 2020

**To:** [student]

**Subject:** CARES Act emergency grants for SLC students

Dear [student name],

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Congress passed and the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide financial and other resources in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the CARES Act, each college and university has been allotted a fixed amount of emergency relief funds to be disbursed to students to offset needs and costs arising from the disruption caused by COVID. Such costs can include additional expenditures incurred for travel, instructional technology, room, board and tuition

Sarah Lawrence College received \$470,000 for grants to our students. The U.S. Education Department has instructed that the funds be disbursed to students enrolled this spring who typically would be eligible to apply for federal (Title IV) aid. We have received guidance that when possible the amount of individual payments should generally take into account existing information about the financial need of students and families as indicated by prior applications for financial aid. In spring 2020, there are 1,345 students who meet the eligibility criteria for CARES Act-funded grants. Based on students' previously expressed need for financial aid, the number of eligible enrolled students at SLC and the total amount of funds available to the College, the grants to be paid to SLC students will range between \$200 and \$575.

The U.S. Education Department has determined that CARES Act educational emergency relief funds cannot be disbursed to students typically ineligible to apply for Title IV federal financial aid: for example, international students studying at SLC under approved visas. However, thanks to the generosity of the Booth Ferris Foundation, the College is able to provide grants of \$200 to our international students indicating need due to COVID-19.

Based on the preceding criteria, the grant that may be available to you is [maximum grant amount for term].

To release these funds, we ask that you visit the following MySLC website to indicate that you did incur additional education-related costs due to the COVID pandemic:

<https://my.slc.edu/cares>

(You will be prompted to log into MySLC in order to reach the website)

Once you have provided this indication, the College will send you the grant either by check or electronic funds transfer. Should you opt not to request a grant, we will ensure any surplus funds are used to support students with need.

Students who may require additional support based upon demonstrated need may contact the Dean of Studies office at [deanofstudies@sarahlawrence.edu](mailto:deanofstudies@sarahlawrence.edu) to learn more about resources that may be available.

Sincerely,

Tom Blum  
VP Administration  
Sarah Lawrence College