

## **ARP Emergency Aid to Students**

What: Emergency financial aid is being made available to students of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges – Frontier Community College, Lincoln Trail College, Olney Central College, and Wabash Valley College – through the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Who: Eligible students are those attending an Illinois Eastern Community College as full-time (more than 11.5 credit hours), three-quarter time (9 – 11.5 credit hours), half-time (6 – 8.5 credit hours), or less than half-time (1 – 5.5 credit hours) as of the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the Fall 2021 term. Students determined to be Pell eligible were automatically determined to be eligible to receive emergency financial aid under the ARP. Students certifying either to have: 1) experienced extraordinary financial circumstances, or 2) emergency expenses due to COVID were also determined to be eligible to receive emergency financial aid.

When: This aid will be disbursed no later than September 17, 2021. Students set up for direct deposit of financial aid awards will receive aid directly to their financial institution account on file. Checks will be mailed on or before September 17, 2021 to any student not registered for direct deposit.

Why: The direct emergency aid to students is for any component of the cost of attendance or emergency costs incurred due to the coronavirus. Example of uses include tuition, food, housing, healthcare (including mental health), or childcare.

### **Reporting as of September 30, 2021**

1. Illinois Eastern Community College District 529 received a supplemental award to provide Emergency Aid to Students through the American Rescue Lan (ARP) on May 13, 2021.
2. The supplemental award provided to Illinois Eastern Community Colleges totals \$4,812,467. This funding is available for disbursement through May 12, 2022, with the ability to receive a one-year extension of time to expend all funds through May 12, 2023.
3. With the first distribution of ARP funds on September 17, 2021, Illinois Eastern Community Colleges has distributed \$3,341,180 in emergency financial aid to students.
  - a. CARES - \$1,015,710
  - b. CRRSAA - \$996,370
  - c. ARP - \$1,329,100
4. The District estimates that there were 1,196 students eligible to receive direct emergency financial aid.
5. On September 17, 2021, the District disbursed \$1,329,100 to 1,196 students.
6. Students registered with Illinois Eastern Community Colleges as of the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the Fall 2021 term and eligible for a Pell Grant were determined to be eligible. Additionally, students who were not Pell eligible were able to complete an application certifying that they either: 1)

experienced extraordinary financial circumstances or significant unexpected expenses due to COVID, or 2) have had emergency expenses due to COVID.

7. All students provided emergency financial aid were provided with the source of the funding, that it would not be required to be paid back, and that it was for any component of the cost of attendance, including healthcare and childcare. In addition, students were given the option to apply funds to their student account to pay any outstanding account balance.