

Dear Student, 0000000

I hope this email finds you and your family healthy and well.

I am pleased to inform you that you have qualified to receive an Emergency Aid grant of **\$545.95** based on qualifying guidelines set forth by the Department of Education. This was made possible by the second Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA HEERF II).

As you may be aware, on December 27, 2020, the president signed into law the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). On January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Department of Education (ED) issued guidelines to all University Presidents announcing plans to distribute funds to higher education institutions from the CRRSAA HEERF II. A portion of these funds are earmarked to issue emergency grants directly to students to offset financial burdens brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. ED guidelines for distributing these emergency grants are clear in asking each institution to place priority on students with *exceptional need*. Using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as a means to determine qualifying students, you qualify to receive this \$545.95 emergency grant aid.

Like the CARES HEERF Act, the CRRSAA HEERF II and Department of Education (ED) are very clear about how these new Emergency Aid funds can be used by students. Guidelines were revised contrary to the CARES HEERF Act to instruct that the CRRSAA HEERF II funds can be used to cover any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, school fees, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or childcare. We strongly encourage you to use these funds responsibly and follow the ED guidelines.

Carson-Newman recently received our portion of the CRRSAA HEERF II and are now able to distribute these funds to qualifying students like you via check. The Student Accounts Office will be processing checks each business day until all checks have been issued to eligible students and will send you an email from their office when your check is available. **Please allow some time for processing your check.** If you are still enrolled at Carson-Newman, you will be able to pick up your check at the Student Accounts office with a valid ID <u>after</u> you have received the email from Student Accounts that your check is available. All other students who need the check mailed will need to follow instructions from Student Accounts.

We hope these funds are helpful as you continue to manage unforeseen economic hardships related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We empathize with the individual challenges and setbacks being lived out across our entire student body. We ask for your patience as our Student Accounts Team now works to issue all eligible students their emergency grant checks.

Have a blessed day,

Danette S. Seale, MBA

**Executive Director of Financial Aid** 

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