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As this unusual semester of virtual learning winds down, I want to make sure the Westminster community knows that funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act have arrived at the College for distribution. Our eligible students will soon receive a check that is meant to cover emergency financial needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic as a result of a disruption in on-campus operations.

Please know that Westminster is carefully following guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Education in distributing funds to qualified students through this emergency grant. The total amount the College received is \$768,643 — half of which is to be distributed equally to our qualifying students beginning May 22. Details regarding who is eligible are available by contacting our Financial Aid Office, which estimates that approximately 90 percent of our enrolled students qualify for relief funds.

For your convenience, you can learn more about the CARES Act by referring to the COVID-19 page on our <u>website</u> or by visiting the U.S. Department of Education website <u>here</u>. You also may contact our Financial Aid Office at financialaid@wcmo.edu or (573) 592-5364.

I want to commend our students for successfully weathering the extreme stresses they have experienced this semester as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic. You have just experienced a historic event that you will remember for the rest of your lives. We at Westminster College have been most concerned for your well-being and have conscientiously dedicated the last two months to meeting your needs during this frightening time. We truly hope that you are doing well.

I look forward to seeing our seniors for their much-anticipated Commencement 2020 on August 8 and the rest of the campus community on August 20 for the first day of the fall semester. Have a wonderful summer!

Fletcher M. Lamkin, Ph.D. President of the College

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