

**Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement
Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
Economic Security (CARES) Act**

Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), authorizes the Secretary of Education ("Secretary") to allocate formula grant funds in the amount of \$ 1188,725.00 to Westmoreland Community College ("Recipient").

Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires Recipient to use no less than fifty percent of the funds received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care). This Certification and Agreement solely concerns the emergency financial aid grants to students under Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act.

To address the pressing financial need of students due to the disruption of campus operations from coronavirus, and pursuant to the authority duly delegated to the Secretary under the CARES Act and associated with the coronavirus emergency, as stated in Proclamation 9994 of March 13, 2020, "Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak," *Federal Register* Vol. 85, No. 53 at 15337-38, the Secretary and Recipient agree as follows:

1. The Secretary will provide Recipient fifty (50) percent of its formula grant funds (the "advanced funds") for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing emergency financial aid grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.
2. Recipient agrees to promptly make available emergency financial aid grants from the advanced funds directly to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. Recipient shall not use the advanced funds to reimburse itself for any costs or expenses, including but not limited to any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus and/or any refunds or other benefits that Recipient previously issued to students.
3. Recipient retains discretion to determine the amount of each individual emergency financial aid grant consistent with all applicable laws including non-discrimination laws. Recipient acknowledges that the Secretary recommends the maximum Federal Pell Grant for the applicable award year as an appropriate maximum amount for a student's emergency financial aid grant in most cases, and the Recipient should be mindful of each student's particular socioeconomic circumstances in the staging and administration of these grants. The Secretary strongly encourages Recipient's financial aid administrator to exercise the use of professional judgment available under Section 479A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), 20 U.S.C § 1087tt, to make adjustments on a case-by-case basis to exclude individual emergency financial aid grants from the calculation of a student's expected family contribution. The Secretary does not consider these individual emergency financial aid grants to constitute Federal financial aid under Title IV of the HEA.

4. In consideration for the advanced funds and as conditions for their receipt, Recipient warrants, acknowledges, and agrees that:

(a) The advanced funds shall not be used for any purpose other than the direct payment of grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care;

(b) Recipient holds those funds in trust for students and acts in the nature of a fiduciary with respect thereto;

(c) Recipient shall promptly comply with Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act and (i) report to the Secretary thirty (30) days from the date of this Certification and Agreement and every forty-five (45) days thereafter in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333 through 2 CFR 200.337, or in such other additional form as the Secretary may specify, how grants were distributed to students, the amount of each grant awarded to each student, how the amount of each grant was calculated, and any instructions or directions given to students about the grants; and (ii) document that Recipient has continued to pay all of its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures to the greatest extent practicable, explaining in detail all specific actions and decisions related thereto, in compliance with Section 18006 of the CARES Act;

(d) Recipient shall comply with all requirements in Attachment A to this Certification and Agreement;

(e) Recipient shall promptly and to the greatest extent practicable distribute all the advanced funds in the form of emergency financial aid grants to students by one year from the date of this Certification and Agreement, and document its efforts to do so as part of the report specified in subsection (c) above;

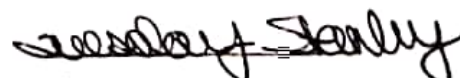
(f) Recipient shall cooperate with any examination of records with respect to the advanced funds by making records and authorized individuals available when requested, whether by (i) the U.S. Department of Education and/or its Inspector General; or (ii) any other federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority; and

(g) failure to comply with this Certification and Agreement, its terms and conditions, and/or all relevant provisions and requirements of the CARES Act or any other applicable law may result in Recipient's liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.*; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; 18 USC § 1001, as appropriate; and all of the laws and regulations referenced in Attachment A, which is incorporated by reference hereto.

RECIPIENT or Authorized Representative of Recipient

OPEID Number

DATE


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4/17/20