CARES grants for students

UWM has received nearly $8.5 million through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help students who are struggling with expenses such as food, housing, course materials, laptops and technology, health care and child care.

To qualify for a CARES grant, students must:

- Have been financially impacted by the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, laptops and other technology, health care and child care. Here are some examples of common expenses:
  - Signing up for home internet service to complete online coursework
  - Buying a laptop or other computer equipment to do coursework
  - Buying groceries after campus dining operations closed
  - Paying a fee to end a lease early or rent for an apartment the student is no longer living in
- Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program eligible for federal (Title IV) financial aid. Most UWM programs are eligible. Nondegree students are not eligible.
- Have filed a 2019-20 or 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to document eligibility to participate in federal (Title IV) programs.
- Have been enrolled in at least one in-person or hybrid class on March 13, 2020, when President Trump issued his “Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak” proclamation. Students who were enrolled exclusively in online courses on March 13, 2020, are not eligible.

If you know of students in need who meet these qualifications, please ask them to complete this short grant application. If they have any questions, they can email cares-grant@uwm.edu.

Please note that the federal CARES program is separate from UWM’s emergency grant program. UWM has already distributed $90,000 in emergency grants to more than 130 students, and we continue to raise money for additional aid.