

## **Note on CARES Act aid to Fitchburg State Students in FY2020**

Earlier this spring, the federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. One of the provisions of this act included providing relief to college students whose educational experience was disrupted as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. Through the CARES Act, Fitchburg State University has received funds that were disbursed directly to eligible undergraduate students who were enrolled in the spring 2020 semester.

The CARES Act funding is one of a series of ways Fitchburg State University is addressing the financial needs of students during the global COVID-19 public health crisis. The University's efforts to assist students have included housing and dining adjustments, continued payment of Federal Work Study wages, and, combined with donations to the Student Emergency Relief Fund, is contributing approximately \$300,000 toward the creation of the "Falcon CARES Fund" for otherwise ineligible students.

Fitchburg State University will use the \$1.9 million it receives in CARES Act funding to directly support eligible students who are facing significant financial challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Through the federal CARES Act funding and the University Falcon CARES Fund, nearly all undergraduate students have received a payment.