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UMS_Community Guidance_Chancellor Malloy Emergency Payments Are On The Way

University of Maine System

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Health Advisory – Coronavirus Disease 2019



Home For Students

- For Everyone
- For Students
- For Employees
- For Travelers

UMS Campus Specific Information

- University of Maine
- University of Maine at Augusta
- University of Maine at Farmington
- University of Maine at Fort Kent
- University of Maine at Machias
- University of Maine at Presque Isle
- University of Southern Maine
- University of Maine School of Law

Public Health Resources

- Maine Center for Disease Control — Coronaviruses
- CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

Announcements

- Working Remotely Guidance Through June 30th Posted
May 18, 2020
- University To Update Guidance Based on Governor Mills' Plan To Restart the Maine Economy
April 29, 2020
- CARES Act Distribution to Students Expected Week of May 4
April 24, 2020
- UMS Forms Fall 2020 Safe Return Planning Committee
April 20, 2020
- COVID-19 Academic Responses and Accommodations
April 18, 2020
- Universities Developing CARES Act Distribution and Fee Adjustment Policies
April 14, 2020
- New Community Resource Guide for Adult Learners and Employees
April 10, 2020
- Summer Sessions To Be Offered Online
April 7, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Our Continued Commitment to UMS Employees
April 3, 2020
- Student Fee Adjustment and Rebate Policy by April 15
April 1, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Celebrating Commencement During the COVID-19 Pandemic
March 30, 2020
- Pass/Fail Options Extended At UMS Universities
March 25, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: We're All in This Together
March 24, 2020
- Mills Administration, Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Response to COVID-19
March 24, 2020
- Identifying University Resources and Materials for the COVID Response Effort
March 23, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Full Pay Commitment to Regular Employees Through April 4
March 19, 2020
- Universities Inventorying Resources for Maine's Coronavirus Response
March 19, 2020
- Universities Transition Employees To Remote Work Thursday, March 19
March 18, 2020
- UMS To Continue Paying Federal Work Study Students
March 18, 2020
- Spring Break Extended Two Days: Classes Resume March 25th
March 18, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Working Remotely and March 25 Start of Classes
March 18, 2020
- Room and Board Adjustments and Rebates
March 17, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Focusing on Faculty and Staff Needs
March 17, 2020
- UMS Technology Resource Update
March 16, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy: Event Restrictions On Gatherings and Other Updates
March 12, 2020
- Student Room and Board Refunds: UMS posting guidance before Noon on Wednesday, March 18th
March 12, 2020
- Travel Assistance Hotline for UMS Employees and Students
March 11, 2020
- Chancellor Malloy Message on Transition to Online Instruction
March 11, 2020
- University UMS COVID-19 Directives prohibit non-essential university air travel, opens residence halls for spring break, sets March 23 deadline for continuity of instruction planning
March 10, 2020
- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information University of Maine System
March 9, 2020
- Students and Employees Urged to Update Emergency Contact Information
March 6, 2020
- UMS COVID-19 Guidance on University Travel for Business and Personal Travel
March 5, 2020
- UMS Guidance for International Travelers
March 4, 2020
- Governor Mills Convenes Coronavirus Response Team
March 2, 2020
- Travel Monitoring and Prohibitions: University Travel to Italy Prohibited
March 1, 2020
- We're Making Plans to be Ready for Coronavirus
February 28, 2020

Chancellor Malloy: Emergency payments are on the way (05/01/2020)

UMS Students –

Today marks the end of classes in a semester that has been unlike any other in the history of our universities.

Your academic and personal lives were upended by the sudden onset of a worldwide pandemic unseen in a century. To protect the health and safety of our campuses, communities, and state, our universities had no choice but to empty their residence halls and transition all work and instruction to online and remote modalities.

Many in our families have lost jobs, and many others have struggled to balance work, learning, and childcare from home. The pandemic's unprecedented disruptions have been especially tough for the thousands of you who are the first in your family to attend college and who may have relied on their campus communities for support not available at home.

From the start, minimizing the pandemic's impact on you has guided every decision I've made.

That's why I immediately pledged that our residential students would be reimbursed for their unused room and board charges. And then we returned that money to our students within days of the closure of our residence halls, making us among the first in the nation to do so.

And that's why our Presidents, Chief Business Officers, and Financial Aid Directors have been working around the clock to determine how to best disburse the \$8.63 million that Congress provided to our universities through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (also known as the CARES Act) to help students pay for emergency expenses caused by the pandemic's disruption to our university operations.

Last week, we decided that 85 percent of each university's CARES Act student money will be distributed to all eligible undergraduate and graduate students, with award amounts varying based on the number of credit hours you are taking this semester. Today, I am pleased to let you know that we've started processing those payments – which for most students will be several hundred dollars – again making UMS a national leader in providing support directly to our students as soon as possible.

Eligible students who have a FAFSA on file should not need to do anything to receive your payment, which should come as early as next week via direct deposit or check. For those who have not completed a FAFSA in the past, your university will be providing details in the coming days on how you can certify your eligibility for these funds so we can get them to you without further delay.

They'll also let you know about a simple process by which those with additional financial need can apply for special emergency funds that have been set aside using the remaining 15 percent of the CARES student monies your university received, which will be further supplemented by a portion of CARES dollars received for institutional relief that we've decided to redirect to our students.

UMS deeply regrets that U.S. Department of Education guidelines do not permit us to pay CARES Act money to our international students, who we value as essential members of our university communities. The disruptions they've experienced are no less than – and in many cases exceed – that of other members of our communities. I've therefore asked our Presidents to look for other ways to support international students using unrestricted resources, including the privately raised crisis funds already in place at several of our universities. Students who were enrolled in exclusively online programs before the onset of the pandemic are also ineligible for relief under the federal guidelines.

I'd like to specifically acknowledge the contributions of your student representatives to the UMS Board of Trustees. They provided invaluable input to my team on how this money should be distributed, showing incredible care and compassion for their fellow students in those conversations.

In closing, I'd like to pay tribute to you. Your determination and dedication to stick with your studies through the disruptions and anxieties caused by the pandemic has been nothing short of extraordinary. The resiliency you've shown will serve you well and far into the future.

Best of luck on your exams next week — you are almost there, and we are right there with you. And to our graduating seniors, if I might share a part of a favorite Irish proverb, may the road rise up to meet you, and may the wind always be at your back.

Sincerely,

Dannel P. Malloy
Chancellor

(Last reviewed/updated: 05/01/2020)

- CARES Act Distribution to Students Expected Week of May 4 (04/24/2020) +
- COVID-19 Academic Responses and Accommodations (04/21/2020) +
- Universities Developing CARES Act Distribution and Fee Adjustment Policies (04/17/2020) +
- Pay for Non Federal Work Study Student Employees (03/25/2020) +
- Extended Pass/Fail Options for Students (03/25/2020) +
- 46% Room and Board Credit Adjustment to Student Accounts (03/25/2020) +
- Federal Work Student Information (03/18/2020) +
- Spring Break Extension: Classes Start March 25 (03/17/2020) +
- Direct Deposit (03/16/2020) +
- Resources for Mental and Emotional Well-Being (03/14/2020) +
- Vacating Residence Halls Over Spring Break (03/13/2020) +