

### Student Portion

1. Certification of Agreement
2. Total amount of funds received or will receive: \$102,524 received and may received an additional \$397,476 for a total of \$500,000
3. Total amount of monies distributed to students: \$75,989.89
4. Estimated Total Number of students eligible to participate in Title IV - 78
5. Total number of students who have received funds: 78
6. Calculation was based on each student individually. First, the College calculated the weekly amount for room and board. Then this amount was multiplied by the amount of weeks left in the semester. Then the College calculated the student's discount rate and subtracted that number from 100%. Then that number was multiplied by the amount of the proposed refund of room and board.
7. William's letter regarding the refund.

### Institutional Portion

On line instruction - \$89.94

**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 \$ 102,524.00 to The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Inc. ("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

William E. Fahey  
Digitally signed by William E. Fahey  
Date: 2020.04.24 10:51:35 -0400

03043100

04/24/2020

## **Attachment A to Recipient's CARES Funding Certification and Agreement**

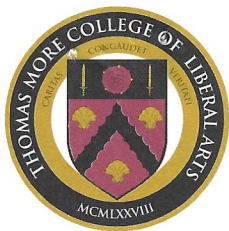
*The Recipient assures and certifies the following:*

- Recipient will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
- With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; Recipient will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix B); and Recipient will require the full certification, as set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.
- Recipient will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99; the 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; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

### **Paperwork Burden Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1801-0005. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to be 2,853 total burden hours. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: Hilary Malawer, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW. Washington, D.C. 20202.





# THOMAS MORE COLLEGE of LIBERAL ARTS

*Office of the President*

*Blessed Margaret Pole*

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear students, recent graduates, and families,

I hope that this letter finds you well and safe from the various inflictions that COVID-19 seems to have brought upon our Country. I am pleased to report that the College is blessed and to date we have not had any personnel or students suffer from health-related harm during this pestilence. I continue to pray through the intercession of St. George and Our Lady that we all remain safe and happily return to normal life by summer's end.

Now that spring term has drawn to its conclusion, grades are in, and the summer is rising before us, the College has had an opportunity to consider and develop a methodology for accounting for spring semester of 2020. Of course, for a good portion of the spring, we held out hope that some or all of you might be able to return to Merrimack. We have hoped to issue some form of a refund, but need to act justly towards students, families, the College, and donors.

As you know, even without students in residence on campus for seven weeks, the majority of expenses remained in place to sustain operations (salaries, insurances, etc.). Nevertheless, a certain amount of thrift allows us to offer you a partial refund of your room & board costs.

The refund period extends from March 23<sup>rd</sup>, when the campus was formally closed and most students relocated to the end of exam week. In fairness to donors and the College, we are not refunding the portion of expenses covered by any scholarships—to do so would be to refund expenses paid by others. The College calculated your specific refund by determining the level of discount you received as a percent of direct costs to determine an adjusted rate to calculate your refund.

So, for example: The room and board portion of your expenses for the 15 week semester is \$4,850 or \$323.33 per week. This amounts to \$2,263.33 for the period under consideration. If a student received financial aid amounting to 50% of his costs, under this methodology he would be eligible for a \$1,131.67 refund.

## **Refund Options**

We are providing you with several choices in how the amount is allocated:

1. *Senior Cash Reimbursement.* Unless option 3 below is taken, Seniors will receive a check for the refund amount, minus any outstanding debt to the College. Dates for graduation are under review at present.
2. *Returning Student Options.* Unless requested, all returning students will have the amount applied as an additional credit to the balance of charges for the 2020-21 academic year, after any residual payment of the 2019-20 year is paid off.

3. *Charitable Gift.* Any student or parent has the option of declining reimbursement and giving it to the College as a charitable gift. Students should designate the correct identity, name, address, and other information so that the College can issue a charitable gift contribution letter.

For anyone who is in a position to support the College by returning the refund as a gift, you have my gratitude. All gifts will be applied to the College financial aid reserve for students attending the College in the coming year. Please let Mrs. Bernstein know what your choice is no later than June 19, 2020.

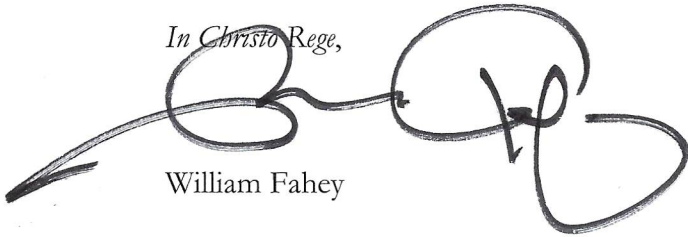
At time of writing, there is every indication that the College will open its doors for normal operations in the autumn. We are planning on the normal summer programs. Enrollment trends are good. We continue to be blessed.

Dates for graduation are under review at present. Those Seniors who will not be present for graduation ceremonies may apply for a refund of graduation fees at that time.

If you have any question about your account or this refund procedure, please contact Mrs. Pamela Bernstein in the Business Office ([pbernstein@thomasmorecollege.edu](mailto:pbernstein@thomasmorecollege.edu)). Again, thank you for your support and efforts with us this spring to see that Thomas More College continued, persevered, and flourished.

*In Christo Rege,*

William Fahey

A handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, stylized 'W' and 'F' that are interconnected. The signature is written over the printed name 'William Fahey'.