**EMAIL MESSAGE FROM CHRIS ROMANO**

Email to students and parents:

Ramapo College of New Jersey is proud to announce that students are now eligible to apply for grant funding made available by the United States Department of Education (US DOE) as part of the “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act,” or CARES Act. These funds are for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grant awards range up to $1,200 per student. The US DOE stipulates these grants must be used for non-tuition related expenses such as housing, food, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. Grants will be paid directly to students and will not have an impact on future financial aid allocations. Grants cannot be applied to a current or outstanding tuition on the student’s Ramapo College account.

Students can apply for a CARES Act grant by completing a short application which can be found here (\*link). The US DOE outlined specific eligibility requirements that Ramapo College must follow in awarding these grants, which can be found on the CARES Act web page (\*same link).

The deadline for applications is May 23. Grants will be made on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds are expended. We will award as many grants as possible to eligible students.

We invite you to use our dedicated email address to support students in the CARES Act grant process. If you have any questions, please email CARESAct@ramapo.edu and a Ramapo representative will be in touch.

We know many of our students and their families have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is with sincerest hope that this is one way Ramapo College can work with you to alleviate some of the financial burden associated with non-tuition related costs.

On behalf of the College, we wish you continued safety and health during this trying time.

 Christopher Romano

 Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs