**EMAIL MESSAGE FROM CHRIS ROMANO**

Email to students and parents:

Ramapo College of New Jersey is proud to announce a second round of 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 grants are for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grant awards were based upon the student income eligibility with the maximum grant award being $850. 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 current or outstanding tuition charges on a student’s Ramapo College account.

The grants will be processed for all Title IV eligible students who have completed a FAFSA form and are enrolled in at least part-time status. Part-time status is considered 6 credits or more for the semester. No application for this grant is necessary as payments will be automatically processed for those that meet the criteria. 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 (https://www.ramapo.edu/student-accounts/cares-act-emergency-grants/).

We invite you to use our dedicated email address if you have questions about the CARES Act grant process: CARESAct@ramapo.edu. To receive your CARES Act grant faster please go to [www.ramapo.edu/student-accounts/direct-deposit/and](http://www.ramapo.edu/student-accounts/direct-deposit/and) sign up for direct deposit.

We know many of our students and their families are still feeling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and we hope this can assist in alleviating some of the financial burden associated with non-tuition related costs.

On behalf of the College, we wish you continued safety and health.

 Christopher Romano, Ed.D

 Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs