## Financial Aid Update - April 30, 2020

Dear LCC Students, Faculty and Staff:

## I am thrilled to announce that financial aid checks are printing now, and will go in the mail today.

The delay in getting funds into the hands of our students, as a result of problems in our complete software conversion through ctcLink, could not have come at a worse time. We know this has created unprecedented hardship for our students, and we sincerely apologize.

If you are a struggling student, please review the resources in yesterday's email (below).

Please be safe and stay well,

Chris Bailey Lower Columbia College President

From: Bailey, Chris

Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:27 PM

To: Bailey, Chris

**Subject:** Financial Aid update and emergency financial resources

Dear LCC Student,

As part of LCC's conversion to a new software system, ctcLink, we have experienced significant technical difficulties in distributing financial aid. This has also impacted our ability to distribute emergency student funding. Our Financial Aid and Finance staff have been working around the clock, along with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, to resolve these unforeseen issues. As soon as we are able to print and mail checks to students, we will let you know immediately.

We know that students are anxiously awaiting their funding and may be struggling to meet their basic needs. If you need access to food, please fill out the <u>request form for the LCC Food Pantry</u> at <u>lowercolumbia.edu/food</u>. The food pantry is distributing food and hygiene items weekly. Additional resources for food help in our community can be found on the our <u>Food Pantry webpage</u>.

If you are a Washington resident, you may be eligible for emergency assistance through the Disaster Cash Assistance program at DSHS. For more information about eligibility, please <u>read</u> their frequently asked questions flyer. Please note that you do not need to have a Social Security Number or be a citizen to qualify for this funding.

While you wait for your tuition and fees to be paid by financial aid, you should attend your classes. The Registration Office will not drop you from your classes for non-payment. If you already know your financial aid award is not enough to pay your entire tuition and fees, your

payment is not due until May 5, 2020. If you are unsure you will be able to pay the balance by May 5, please let us know so we can identify other options that may be available to you.

As a reminder, you can only see your 2019-20 financial aid awards, including Spring Quarter, in the previous <u>Financial Aid Portal</u> that is still available on the LCC financial aid webpage. Starting Summer Quarter 2020, you will see your financial aid awards in <u>ctcLink</u>.

If you need assistance with your financial aid, please visit us in the Virtual Welcome Center.

Please visit the <u>LCC COVID-19 Student Resource page</u> for the latest information on LCC's COVID-19 response and resources that may be available to you.

Please reach out for assistance if you need it; we're here to help!

Chris Bailey Lower Columbia College President