Dear Warriors,

We are now at the midpoint in the fall 2020 semester, and my hope is that this message finds you, your family, and your friends safe and strong. All of us at ESU are happy that so many of you remain focused on your studies with us, and we understand you may have encountered COVID-19 related financial difficulties that are impacting your educational success.

I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know that we have some additional funding available to help students who are enrolled in fall 2020 classes. As many of you now know, the U.S. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act has distributed funding and, while following the guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Education, we want to help our Warriors get the education they seek.

You may apply again for this round of funding, even if you have received CARES Act funding in the past. The main goal of the CARES Act is to help students/families who are experiencing COVID-19 related hardships that pertain to a student’s educational endeavor. If you are experiencing difficulty paying your tuition, books, food, housing, etc. due to a COVID-19 related reason, I encourage you to submit an application.

A few notes:
Students must be Title IV eligible to receive federal funds, as determined by the 2020-2021 FAFSA (studentaid.gov). This includes, but is not limited to, being a citizen or eligible non-citizen in a degree-seeking program of study, and meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). For a full list of Title IV requirements please visit: https://www.esu.edu/financial-aid/cares-act.cfm.

ESU’s CARES Act application is currently open until Friday, November 20, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. and can be accessed by visiting https://www.esu.edu/financial-aid/cares-act.cfm. Applications will be processed as they are submitted; however, please give the review team between two and four weeks to respond to your application. Notification of award will be made soon after. We guarantee that all applications will be reviewed; however, there is no guarantee that your request will be fulfilled.

If you have any questions about the CARES Act, please email Kelly Osorio, director of financial aid, at fa@esu.edu or Dr. Gene Kelly, dean of student life, at ekelly2@esu.edu.

Kenneth Long
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