

Cougar Greetings!

Barton hopes this letter finds you well! The Spring 2020 semester has not been as anyone had anticipated, requiring a quick transition to alternate delivery mode to safeguard the safety of Barton students and employees. Barton appreciates your agility and patience in making this transition!

Federal funds have been made available to Barton Community College through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES Act. This is also referenced as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, (HEERF). Through this act, funding is available to qualified students who have experienced financial hardships transitioning to online class delivery due to the COVID-19 pandemic. After reviewing the eligibility requirements Barton has determined selection criteria based upon CARES funding guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

The purpose of this message is to inform you that you have been designated as a qualified recipient of a CARES grant. CARES funding amounts will vary by student based upon the Expected Family Contribution calculated on your 2019-20 FAFSA. **You can view the CARES amount you should expect to receive by logging into your Barton Portal Account and viewing your Financial Aid Awards.** By accepting this payment, you acknowledge you have expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 during the Spring 2020 semester. If you do not have expenses related from disruption due to COVID-19, you must return these funds to Barton Community College, Attn. Business office at 245 NE 30 RD, Great Bend, KS 67530 by **June 24, 2020**. Please understand even though you are receiving this payment, this is not a refund of overpaid funds. You may still have an outstanding balance with Barton. If you wish to use these funds to offset what you currently owe, or if you have any questions, please call Barton's Business Office at 620-792-9319 or send a message to this email address: businessoffice@bartonccc.edu

Action Step You Need to Take: Make sure you are signed up for Direct Deposit! The most expedient way to deliver these funds to you is through Direct Deposit to your checking or savings account. If you have not signed up for Direct Deposit, you can do so with Barton's Student Financial Center accessible through your Barton Portal account. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Barton's Business Office at 620-792-9319 or businessoffice@bartonccc.edu. **The CARES Grants will be processed on June 8th, 2020 and in most cases delivered in 7-10 business days.** If a direct deposit is returned due to an incorrect account number or a check returned due to an incorrect postal address, the funds will be redistributed to another student. **Therefore, it is imperative for you to sign up for direct deposit with a valid account number in Barton's Student Financial Center and to ensure your postal address is accurate in your Barton Portal account!**

The payment that you are receiving can be used towards bills or expenses that you have incurred such as emergency travel, medical costs, technology for online classes, temporary housing and supplies or storage and moving expenses. The amount you've received was based upon an average estimate of financial hardship. If you incurred expenses in excess of the amount you received, you may petition to receive additional funds for housing (pending eviction), overdue utilities, expenses due to illness/death in the immediate family, medical or dental emergencies, food, or other essential items based upon documented evidence. These requests will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis by the Financial Aid Office. Additional funding will be considered until the entire allocation has been exhausted. You may request this consideration by emailing financialaid@bartonccc.edu and requesting a CARES appeal.

Barton is committed to helping you continue learning! If you have any questions or concerns about any matter, including future enrollments, please reach out to us.

Best regards,