

LEAP NEBRASKA

SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS DURING COVID-19

Please contact your LEAP Coach and visit Nebraska Children's COVID-19 resource page for up-to-date resources and information, including how to access food, housing, healthcare, legal help, parenting help, and many other types of support. You can find the page here:

www.nebraskachildren.org/covid-19-information-and-resources.html

College-based Emergency Assistance

Southeast Community College (Lincoln, NE) Student Emergency Fund

www.southeast.edu/student-application-for-emergency-fund/

Metro Community College (Omaha, NE) COVID-19 Resource Aid Request Form

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?MetropolitanCCNeb&layout_id=90

University of Nebraska Emergency Assistance Fund (all universities statewide)

nebraska.edu/covid-19

Iowa Western Community College (Council Bluffs, IA) Student Assistance

www.iwcc.edu/current_student/health.asp

Statewide Community-based Emergency Assistance

Connected Youth Initiative/Project Everlast Support Services Funds – contact your local Central Navigator!

Omaha: Contact Project Everlast, Brittney Livingston at blivingston@nebraskachildren.org or complete the support services form here: www.projecteverlast.org/omaha/support-services_fund.html

Lincoln: Contact The Hub, Lindsey Drake at ldrake@hublincoln.org or complete the support services form here: www.projecteverlast.org/lincoln/cyi-support-services-fund.html

Statewide: Visit the Nebraska Children website to get the contact for the Central Navigator in your area.

View the information here:

www.nebraskachildren.org/what-we-do/community-prevention-systems/community-contacts.html

Emergency Assistance (EA) for Families with Children (student parents). Apply at AccessNebraska here:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Temporary-Economic-Support.aspx>

United Way 2-1-1 (Dial 2-1-1) to access an array of support

My LNK (Lincoln & Lancaster County): <https://lincolnne.mylnk.app/categories>

National Emergency Aid for College Students

Scholly Student Relief Fund (receive up to \$200 in cash assistance):

<https://myscholly.com/relief>

Together We Rise Emergency Support:

www.togetherwerise.org/help-displaced-students/#form

Tuition, Student Loans & Financial Aid Information

You may get reimbursed if your campus closes housing. If you had to leave campus and are now learning remotely, you may be able to get some of your money back. Most schools are reimbursing students for some of their non-tuition costs, such as housing, meals and facility fees. Contact your Academic Advisor or LEAP Coach to help you navigate this process!

Don't count on a tuition discount if your college switches to online learning. But ask about potential refunds for classes that can't be held remotely, such as physical fitness or hands-on lab courses. Contact your Academic Advisor or LEAP Coach to help you navigate this process!

- o Getting a reimbursement will be similar to returning a purchase — you're either going to get a credit to use for a future payment to the school or a direct refund, and it all depends on the school's policy.
- o Any amount you receive back into your account or as a future credit will be prorated, meaning you'll receive a portion of the overall costs you paid according to how much time is left in the semester.
- o You can keep refunds from unused loans, but it's still borrowed money you have to repay. Consider returning those funds to your lender, especially if you have an unsubsidized federal loan, PLUS loan or a private loan, which all accrue interest while you're in school.
- o Few colleges have canceled classes entirely without moving to remote learning. If it happens to your school, you're likely to be reimbursed for all costs for the rest of the semester, including tuition.

Loan and Pell Grant limits are waived

- o For those who don't complete college this semester, the CARES Act calls for colleges to waive lifetime limits on certain aid, including Pell Grants. That means any federal direct loan or Pell Grant money you used for school this semester won't count toward your lifetime limit for either aid type.
- o You can request more financial aid. Even if you have already filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, you can appeal your award. This is useful if your finances have changed due to events like job loss or medical expenses.
- o To update your FAFSA, sign in to www.fasfa.ed.gov and click on "Make FAFSA Correction." Enter your FSA ID, make changes and submit. You can make changes up until the FAFSA deadline — June 30 after the school year you need aid. So, if you need more aid to help out with expenses this school year, you have until June 30, 2020, to do it. To update your FAFSA for 2020-21 you have until June 30, 2021.

Coronavirus and Loan Forbearance Info for Students and Borrowers, including short-term loan forbearance:

<https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/coronavirus>

U.S. Government Suspends Student Loan Payments:

<https://bit.ly/2wlyozy>

Internet Access

Allo | Free internet for people in Lancaster County

Call 402-480-6550

Cox Communications

First two months free of Connect2Compete service, \$9.95/month thereafter

Until May 15, 2020, phone and remote desktop support free through Cox Complete Care

Resources for discounted, refurbished equipment through PCs for People

Cox Mobile Hotspots

Cox is making all mobile hotspots available for free. Find all mobile hotspot locations here:

www.cox.com/aboutus/wifi-hotspot-map.html

Charter Spectrum Internet

Charter will offer Spectrum Internet for FREE, including in-home Wi-Fi, to new subscriber households with K-12 or college students for 60 days. A free self-installation kit will be provided to new student households.

To enroll, call 1-844-488-8395

Charter Mobile Hotspots

Charter is making all mobile hotspots available for free. Find all mobile hotspot locations here:

www.spectrum.com/wifi-hotspots

Technology

One Simple Wish (for those with previous foster care experience):

Please email info@onesimplewish.org if you are in need of a laptop for remote learning.

Cox PCs for People (low-cost refurbished computers for sale):

<https://cox.pcsrefurbished.com/sales/salesHome.aspx>

Employment and Work Study

You can still receive federal work-study! If your school or employer closes and you lose your federal work-study job, you may be eligible to receive multiple payments or a one-time grant for the remaining period you were set to work. The amount you receive will be based on your award amount rather than hours worked. Contact your college to find out how they are carrying out this policy.

You may qualify for unemployment benefits: If you worked part-time or full-time while enrolled in school, and you were laid off or if you're a gig worker whose work is affected by the pandemic, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits. On top of that, you could receive an additional \$600 of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation per week. The benefits will last up to 39 weeks. File for unemployment as soon as you receive notice that you are being laid-off, furloughed, let go or their place of work is closed due to COVID. Dept. of Labor has made this process more rapid and several requirements are being waived for UI claims such as searching for new work and the one-week wait period. Visit: www.networks.nebraska.gov

Other Support

U-Haul for Displaced College Students:

Those who need storage for their belongings while they sort out where to go next, should visit the link to find a U-Haul location near them. www.uhaul.com/Storage/