Emergency Aid Grants: A More Holistic Approach to Helping Students Weather a Financial Crisis

During this difficult and unprecedented time in our history, the trades continue to be an essential part of the workforce. Ascendium Education Group partnered with ECMC and Sunshine Lady to support trade students with the new Equal Measure Emergency Grant program. The program is designed to provide funding to support immediate cash needs and ensure students have the resources they need to make it to graduation. Through 2020-2021, Ascendium awarded $1,500 scholarships to 201 apprentices across the Wisconsin Technical College System, each of whom received a $1,500 scholarship.

Most interesting was the confirmation that the students with the most need are often the first to drop out of school. That's why we're pleased to report 2019-2020 awards totaling $301,500 to recipients who have either completed or continued their apprenticeships the following semester.

Since 2012, we've helped two- and four-year colleges build emergency grant programs. In case you missed it: We released our new report, A Sharper Focus on Educational Philanthropy, offering strategies on how to make the most of your resources. Now a partner to create a new database connecting state grant aid applications to the growing policy strategy at the state level is to provide individual students with need-based financial aid. We hope everyone stays safe and we look forward to participating in events in the coming months.

COVID-19: Providing Emergency Aid to College Students in a Time of Crisis

In case you missed it: We released our COVID-19 Resources Page with a variety of guides, reports and other resources to help schools navigate through this unprecedented time. Ascendium Education Group has cancelled all staff travel plans until further notice, due to pandemic concerns. We have been working to address this issue of funding available for needs of colleges and universities directly related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been working to address this issue of funding available for needs of colleges and universities directly related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the United States, how many students are currently enrolled in work-based programs? Or which programs and levels of funding are the most successful at helping serve nature of awarding grants. This is a difficult problem to tackle. Information is valuable because it can guide our decisions about the amount of aid we should be fighting for, and about how the aid is distributed. It also gives a clearer picture of how many students were able to graduate with the help of financial aid.

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Our report, A Sharper Focus on Educational Philanthropy, offers strategies on how to make the most of your resources. Those trends and challenges, and how research might be used to support policy decisions for institutional development, and the ability to look at applications, even when we didn’t get any grants.

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