

THE MICHAEL PROJECT

COVID Emergency Assistance Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I apply?
 - a. Please fill out the application [here](#) . It is estimated to take about 15 minutes.
2. Who can apply?
 - a. Current university students
3. How much money can I receive from the program?
 - a. The program provides emergency assistance ranging from \$75-\$500 depending on specific need. The program does not anticipate awarding more than \$500 to any student.
 - b. The fund takes into account other sources of funding the student receives and the students must disclose this amount on the application.
4. What can the money be used for?
 - a. The money is intended to help students meet immediate, essential expenses like housing, food, transportation, medical care, child care, etc.
5. Are there any restrictions on how I spend the money?
 - a. Money cannot be used to pay for tuition costs.
6. Who provides the money?
 - a. The program is supported by donors of The Michael Project, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations come from individuals all across the country.
7. Do I need to pay back the money?
 - a. No. The money is not a loan and it does not need to be repaid.
8. Will this affect my financial aid from my university?
 - a. The money is not administered by the university and therefore it should not affect your financial aid. However, your financial aid application may consider external sources of funding that students receive throughout the course of the year and you may be required to report the money as income.
9. How soon will I get the money?
 - a. After being notified that your application was approved, you can expect to receive a check in the mail within 1 week,
10. What is the non-financial support component of the program?
 - a. To help students navigate the current coronavirus crisis and its associated impacts, The Michael Project is connecting students with "Community Navigators". These navigators are volunteers from the DC community who are eager to help college students during these difficult times. Navigators can provide assistance to students with a range of issues, big and small.

- b. If you have a particular challenge (e.g., navigating public assistance, job searching), The Michael Project will identify a navigator who is able to support.
- c. There is no obligation to use the community navigator network

11. How will I interact with my Community Navigator?

- a. The Michael Project will provide a Navigator for a particular need that you have identified (e.g, legal support, technology assistance) - the interaction with the navigator may be a one-time support or an ongoing relationship depending on your need.
- b. The Michael Project strongly encourages all students and navigators to follow local guidance on social distancing, so navigators will only be accessible to students virtually (phone and video). However, if guidance from local officials changes and the situation improves, you may be able to meet your navigator in-person in the future.