



## Supporting Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The University of Illinois System's three universities are taking extraordinary steps to support our students academically and financially during the COVID-19 pandemic, including [waiving tuition increases for in-state undergraduate students](#). Other measures include:

### University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

- [Distributing](#) \$15.7 million in student financial assistance grants received through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Most of the emergency grants are \$1,000-3,000 per student.
- Provided an additional \$4 million in institutional funds for students not eligible for CARES funding.
- Spent \$5 million in institutional funds to help high-need students take summer classes, so that they could make continued academic progress during a summer when many were sheltering at home without a summer job.
- Using \$2.3 million received through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund authorized in the CARES Act to support students by, for example, purchasing laptops for low-income students.
- Spending roughly \$2 million on cell phones for students and virtual computer labs.
- To promote academic success, spent \$3 million to sponsor a summer teaching academy to help instructors prepare for hybrid and online classes this fall.
- Reducing or waiving certain student fees for the 2020-21 academic year, with an 8.4% reduction for full-time, on-campus students.
- Sending [more than 1800 electrical and computer engineering lab kits](#) to engineering students, to replace the instrumentation and materials that the students would have received for in-person labs.

### University of Illinois Chicago (UIC)

- [Distributing](#) \$14.9 million in student financial assistance grants received through the CARES Act, plus an additional \$2.3 million from CARES tied to UIC's designation as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI). UIC John Marshall Law School is [distributing](#) an additional \$144,000 to its students.
- UIC is also using some of the institutional (non-student aid) funds from CARES to secure laptops and hotspots for students, and to help faculty and teaching assistants transition classes to an online format.
- Applied for \$7 million from GEER to support payment of past-due balances, housing costs and increased financial aid for low-income and underrepresented students.
- Providing over \$100,000 in emergency grant support through College Emergency Grants and the U and I Care Program to students who do not qualify for CARES funding.
- Providing students with access to software through the [Virtual Computer Lab](#). Students may also request access to laptops and hotspots.



**University of Illinois Springfield (UIS)**

- [Distributing](#) \$866,000 in student financial assistance grants received through the CARES Act.
- Spending an additional \$45,000 in institutional/donor funds on [Prairie Stars COVID-19 Relief Grants](#) for students not eligible for CARES funding.
- Using \$465,000 received through the GEER Fund to provide direct services to underrepresented, first-generation, and high-need students including providing laptops, digital access, instructional materials, etc.
- Spending \$200,000 to help instructors prepare for hybrid and online classes for this fall.