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From: <NMUPres@nmu.edu>

Date: Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 4:43 PM

Subject: ACTION REQUIRED: Winter Student Grants

To: <@nmu.edu>

NMU Students,

If you followed the tuition and fee rate announcement, you will recall that the NMU Board of Trustees simultaneously approved a grant program for the winter semester when setting this year's rates. The Financial Aid Office and Student Service Center have now finalized the very simple process for student grant acceptance.

You will need to click on this [link](#), read the brief information and then choose one of two options to let Northern know how you want your grant to be processed. This will take you about two minutes.

These grants are in recognition of the financial challenges that students and their families continue to face due to the pandemic and are funded through federal stimulus dollars. There are a few, but not many, requirements to receive the grants. They are outlined in the information provided on the web page.

The grant amounts are as follows:

- Undergraduate students enrolled in six or more credits who are Pell Grant eligible for Winter 2022 can receive \$750. Pell eligible undergraduates taking five or fewer credits can receive \$200.
- Undergraduates enrolled in six or more credits who are not Pell Grant eligible for Winter 2022 can receive \$550. Undergraduates taking five or fewer credits can receive \$ 200.
- Graduate students with four or more credit hours are eligible for \$300 while those enrolled in three or fewer hours can receive \$ 200.

Your two options for distribution of the grant are to either to have the funds applied directly to your Winter 2022 balance or to have the funds sent to you for use toward other pandemic-related items. To indicate your preference, you'll need to click a button on the web page and then click submit.

The start of the winter semester is only a month away. Please take care of this quick step in the grant funding process so we can get your award headed your way.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kerri Schuiling, Interim NMU President

[list@a]
1 message

Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 1:52 PM

President's Office <mmupes@mmu.edu>
Reply-To: President's Office <mmupes@mmu.edu>
To: list@a@mmu.edu, list@ad@mmu.edu, list@ad@mmu.edu, list@coaches@mmu.edu, list@deans@mmu.edu, list@exce@mmu.edu, list@fr@mmu.edu, list@grad@mmu.edu, list@jdc@mmu.edu, list@pdr@mmu.edu, list@sa@mmu.edu, list@smgm@mmu.edu, list@temp@mmu.edu, list@top@mmu.edu

NMU Students, Faculty and Staff,

To those working this week, welcome back. I hope you enjoyed the holiday break. To those returning for the start of the new semester next week, enjoy your final days of break. We look forward to having you back on campus soon.

Unfortunately, the new calendar year is off to a bit of a rough start.

Winter weather: A snow storm is predicted for tonight and tomorrow (Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 4-5). The storm is predicted to last through Wednesday and therefore, the roads should be cleared allowing safer winter travel starting Thursday (Jan. 6), which is also when the NMU residence halls reopen, dining services resume, and new student orientation begins. However, it is still recommended that you check the weather for your travel areas and plan accordingly.

Pandemic planning: Unfortunately, globally the pandemic is worsening, primarily due to the Omicron variant. While cases of COVID in the UP seem to be moderating, the number of infected persons is beginning to rise, probably due to gatherings and travel over the holidays. And, just recently, the Omicron variant has been identified in cases in the UP. Further complicating the current health front is that we are entering into the period of the year typical for high cases of flu and colds.

Two things are required of each of us during this period: 1) We must all continue to commit to doing what we can to take care of ourselves and our NMU community, and 2) We remain flexible and continue to be ready for change as decisions are made to address circumstances as they develop.

This semester Northern is expanding vaccination and booster shot availability at the NMU Health Center and is implementing mass random COVID-19 testing. The information below will help you prepare for the new semester:

- **Vaccinations and Boosters** – To set up an appointment for a COVID vaccination or booster, call the NMU Health Center at 906-227-2355. In addition to the NMU Health Center Pharmacy, you can also receive these services at physician offices and commercial pharmacies, both in Marquette and in your hometown.
- **Required Random Testing** – Starting Monday, Jan. 17, Northern will begin a surveillance COVID-19 testing program. The plan is to test 700 individuals weekly: 300 employees (150 vaccinated, 150 without proof of vaccination in the Bridge system), 300 students (150 vaccinated, 150 without proof of vaccination in the Bridge system), and 110 student-athletes. This level of testing will enable Northern to have a relative sense of the amount of COVID-19 cases among the campus community. The details of the required testing are as follows:
 - o Individuals in each category are randomly selected. Compliance is mandatory.
 - o Testing will take place each week (except the week of spring break (Feb. 28 – March 6) on Mondays from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Peninsula II of the Northern Center.

o If you are selected to undergo random COVID-19 testing, you will be sent an email from SafeOnCampus@mmu.edu that includes a link for you to select your preferred testing time. Faculty and work supervisors will work with you, as needed, to ensure that you can test during the week you are selected.

o If the OSHA/MIOSHA Emergency Temporary Standard for mandatory vaccination or weekly testing is approved by the U.S. Supreme Court (oral arguments begin January 7), NMU will adjust its testing pool to meet the ETS requirements regarding mandatory testing for all employees (full-time, part-time, temporary and student) who have not provided proof of vaccination.

While the COVID-19 situation continues to remain fluid at the moment, some of the most important steps for each of us to take are those we've been taking since February 2020: wear a mask (properly over nose and mouth) when indoors and when in large groups of people, wash your hands frequently, when not feeling well and/or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, influenza or a cold, stay home and do your best to isolate from others. As a nurse, I cannot stress how important for prevention of infection these easy-to-do steps are to the overall health of everyone on our campus.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and make changes to our protocols as the situation dictates. Please continue to watch your NMU email because changes that are necessitated due to changes in infection rates etc. may need to be implemented quickly.

As mentioned in a previous email, it is strongly recommended that you receive a booster dose of either Pfizer or Moderna when you are eligible. Eligibility is based on when you were originally vaccinated (5 months after the second dose of Pfizer, 6 months after the second dose of the Moderna vaccine, and 2 months after receiving the Johnson and Johnson vaccine).

CDC Isolation/Quarantine Changes: The CDC recently made some changes to its isolation/quarantine recommendations and have shortened the isolation period from 10 days to 5 days in some situations. However, the CDC kept the isolation/quarantine periods at 10 days for individuals in congregate settings, which includes university residence halls. The Marquette County Health Department, based on CDC and state standards, will determine the isolation/quarantine period for any infected or exposed individuals with Northern ties.

Three non-pandemic related updates as we start the new semester:

- **Special Board Meeting:** We've added a link to the NMU Board of Trustees site that will enable everyone to sign up for alerts regarding board meeting dates, including special board meetings. Go here to sign up. We anticipate a number of special meetings may be needed this semester related to the presidential search, including the one scheduled for 5 p.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, Jan. 5, to approve individuals selected to serve on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. Here is Wednesday's agenda and link to view the meeting.
- **Grants Available** – Students were emailed information prior to the semester break about a grant program for the winter semester. Students must click this link, read the brief information, and then choose one of two options for grant processing. Almost all NMU students qualify for some level of the grant, which ranges from \$200 to \$750. Students who have not already applied are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.
- **Snowfest and MLK Service Day:** Mark your calendars for Snowfest on Wednesday, Jan. 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Academic Mall and the first floor of Jamrich Hall, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the national day of service, on Monday, Jan. 17. Please watch for event details in the coming days.

A final note – The start of a new semester is always exciting, even during a pandemic. I look forward to all of the Winter 2022 learning and activities to come, and I thank each of you for your patience and compassion as we continue to navigate our way through these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kerri D. Schulling, Interim President