

NewsBlast

March 27, 2020

Students, we know you are dealing with a lot of challenges right now. Our faculty and staff are doing all they can to respond to your changing needs in this new learning and student service environment. Please let us know how we can best assist you. We are hoping that this NewsBlast directs you to the people, the services, and the answers you are seeking. If we have missed something, please reach out to us.

Below is a link to our Student Guide webpage that provides a ton of great information in one place. Scroll down the page to see department email addresses and phone numbers you can contact with questions, as well as Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), online library and tutoring services, and more.

Link - <https://www.frederick.edu/coronavirus-covid19/emergency-remote-learning.aspx>

As we learn to navigate a new learning and teaching environment, let's be patient with ourselves and others and optimistic that we're going to come through this with greater skills and confidence in all we are capable of achieving.

Virtual Access to College Services and Resources

Programs and Services

The Admissions Office is here to support all of our students through the application and enrollment process both for Credit Programs and Continuing Education Workforce Development (CEWD). If you are new to FCC, transferring from another institution, bridging from either [Dual Enrollment](#), [English as a Second Language \(ESL\)](#) or [Adult Education](#), our staff will guide you through the steps. Please contact us at admissions@frederick.edu or 301.624.2716. We look forward to working with you and sharing all that Frederick Community College has offer.

Office of Adult Services(OAS) - If you are currently a participant in the Office of Adult Services and have questions or concerns, please contact Stacey SYost@frederick.edu or Janice JBrown@frederick.edu. We are happy to help in any way we can. Please use your myfcc email account and include your name, student number, and phone number (if you would like a phone conversation). If you are interested in learning about who we serve and what we offer, please visit us at www.frederick.edu/adultservices and contact us for a telephone intake interview by emailing adultservices@frederick.edu or calling 301.846.2483 (monitored daily).

Bookstore – The Bookstore is closed for walk-in business, but continues to process orders made on their website for course materials and other merchandise during this time. All shipping charges will be waived for the duration of the closure. Please visit <http://bookstore.frederick.edu/home> to place your order.

Our Spring semester buyback scheduled for May 13, 14, 18, and 19 will now be conducted entirely online. Please check our website for updates and details.

<http://bookstore.frederick.edu>

If you rented a textbook from the FCC Bookstore for this Spring semester, the return deadline of May 15 has been extended to June 15.

Should you have any questions please email bookstore@frederick.edu. That email is being monitored regularly and is the quickest and most efficient method to address your concerns.

Career Services advisors are available to assist you remotely with both your decisions surrounding choice of major and career AND with your job or internship search (including resumes, interviewing, and networking).

You can schedule an appointment with a Career Advisor at <https://www.frederick.edu/student-resources/counseling-advising.aspx>.

In addition, you can find valuable resources online to help you with your choice of major and career, as well as your job search at the following sites:

- Services website: www.frederick.edu/careers
- FCC Library Guide for Careers and Jobs: <https://guides.frederick.edu/careers>
- online Jobs Platform - College Central Network: www.collegecentral.com/frederick

Please feel free to direct general questions to careercenter@frederick.edu.

Counseling and Advising - Assistance and questions should be sent to emailadvising@frederick.edu. Advisors will be available to assist students though email, phone and virtual to support all student advising needs. Students can also use the Counseling and Advising website to get updates and utilize advising resources for additional assistance.

Financial Aid - Current students can view financial aid awards online in PeopleSoft. If you have outstanding items on your “to do” list, students can still fax documents to 301.624.2886. If you have questions about your financial aid eligibility, please email financialaid@frederick.edu.

The financial aid office will be disbursing financial aid for students for classes that started on March 18 after attendance is confirmed by instructors. Students will receive an email when the financial aid has been disbursed. After the funds have been disbursed, please allow up to 14 days for the refund to be posted to your BankMobile account. You will receive a second email when the funds have posted to your BankMobile account. If you have questions, please email financialaid@frederick.edu.

The Office of Multicultural Student Services remains committed and will continue to support you academically and personally as always. Please note...we will be implementing the following support services through alternative methods.

- If you have an academic advising, academic support, or PASS appointment, we are still planning and available to meet with you.
- If you need or would like to schedule an appointment, please use the following link: Multicultural Student Service Appointment Requests. If you need to reschedule, please use the link mentioned previously.

The below applications will be used during your appointment:

- WhatsApp at 330.451.6901 – [Ms. Chianti Blackmon](#) or 240.397.8628 – [Mr. Eugene Smith](#)
- Zoom

- Google Voice at 330.451.6901 – Ms. Chianti Blackmon or 330.451.6901 – Mr. Eugene Smith
- Follow us on Instagram MSS_FCC —we will be going live and hosting programs there!

In order to stay up to date on all official announcements, a Remind account has been established. To gain access to Remind/Multicultural Student Service, please reach out to Natalie Arias at narias@frederick.edu. We highly encourage you to opt-in to our Remind app account.

If you do not have access to any of the above-mentioned applications, please let us know so that we can find alternative methods for your appointment. Take good care of yourself and stay safe.

[Services for Students with Disabilities \(SSD\)](#) - Please contact your advisor in the office if you have questions or need assistance with accommodations. If you are unsure who that is or if you do not have an advisor in SSD, please contact the office directly with questions or concerns at DisabilityServices@frederick.edu or call 301.846.2408 (Voice).

If you currently do not work with the Services for Students with Disabilities Office but develop the need for a temporary accommodation as the result of a change in your health or because your course moved online, please email DisabilityServices@frederick.edu or call 301.846.2408 (Voice) as soon as you recognize the need for the accommodation.

[Veteran and Military Services \(VMS\)](#) - Please visit the VMS Blackboard site for up to date announcements regarding GI Bill benefits. If you need additional information, please contact Rachel Nachlas at rnachlas@frederick.edu. To set up an appointment with VMS staff, please visit www.frederick.edu/vms.

If you are a National Guard Student and you have been or may be called up to provide support throughout the state, or if you are a Veteran concerned about VA Housing Allowance payments if all courses switch to an online format, please contact the Director of Veteran and Military Services, Rachel Nachlas at rnachlas@frederick.edu. All FCC Credit Programs are approved by the VA for both in-residence and online delivery so our student benefits payments will remain the same for the rest of the term.

Helpful Resources

[Emergency Child Care](#) - The YMCA of Frederick County has been approved for Essential Personnel Child Care and Essential Personnel School-Age programs. This means the YMCA will be providing programming for children ages 6 weeks through age 12. Programming is available from 6:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., Mon.-Fri. Parents will need to send their children with a lunch and water bottle with their name clearly displayed.

What does this mean?

- You will need to review and complete the newly created “Family Registration Form” issued by the Maryland State Department of Education. In order for the Y to provide service to you and your family, you will need to qualify as an Essential Personnel, as defined by the Governor’s Executive Order issued March 25.
- If deemed qualified, you will not need to complete additional paperwork.

The Good News: If you qualify, as of Monday, March 30, the State of MD will pay for your child care costs during this time.

Next Steps: YOU will need to determine if you are considered Essential Personnel. If you receive care and the State deems that you did not meet the Essential Personnel requirement, then you will be responsible for payments at that time. Here is the list we have been given:

- Providers of healthcare, long term or acute patient care, emergency medical or pharmaceutical services
- Public Health Employees
- Law enforcement personnel
- Correctional Services employees
- Firefighters and other first responders
- Government workers required to work in the State of Emergency
- Employees and representatives of insurance carriers
- National Guard called to active duty
- Staff or providers of child care or education services, including custodial and food service worker
- Food distributors and suppliers
- Transportation and delivery services personnel
- Gasoline service station operators and auto mechanics
- Critical Infrastructure employees, such as emergency and support personnel for gas and electric utility operations, public works, water treatment, and waste management
- Personnel of other institutions ORDERED to remain open during the State of Emergency
- Other persons the State Superintendent deems necessary

In addition to the MSDE form indicating your place of employment, YMCA will need to have documentation of such employment. They will require either an ID badge, letter from employer, or a pay stub.

To inquire about availability and for paperwork to apply, contact:

- Diana Lewis, BASE (School Age Program) dlewis@frederickymca.org, 1.301.663.5131 ext. 1269
- Krista Kaplan, ELC Downtown Director, kkaplan@frederickymca.org, 1.301.663.5131 ext. 1278
- Tammy DeGrange, ELC Green Valley Director, tdegrange@frederickymca.org, 1.301.607.6258

PLEASE NOTE: YMCA is only processing registrations from 6:30am-6:30pm, Mon.-Fri.

FCC ALERTS - Be sure to sign up for FCC Alert at www.frederick.edu/fccalert and to check your College email regularly. The Alert feature insures that you are getting the most current and accurate information as soon as it becomes available!

Food Pantry - If you rely on services at the College to eat, please see below for options in the community while FCC's food pantry is inaccessible.

- Food pantries in Frederick County
<https://www.foodpantries.org/ci/md-frederick>

- 211 MD - Food pantries in Maryland
<https://211md.org/211provider-md-search-results?q=Food%20Pantries>

- Maryland Food Bank Listings

Find Food Banks near you

<https://mdfoodbank.org/find-food/>

- FCPS free food program for students

<https://www.fcps.org/about/news/1677052/fcps-feeds-children-while-schools-are-closed>

- Rescue Mission, Food Distribution

People can go once a week.

<https://www.therescuemission.org/programs/bread-of-life-food-ministries/>

- Community Action Agency

Receive 3 - 5 day supply of food

www.cityoffrederick.com

- Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs

<https://www.thereligiouscoalition.org/programs-services/food-banks/>

- Bread of Life Community Kitchen - Soup Kitchen and Food Boxes

Frederick, MD 21701

<https://www.therescuemission.org/programs/bread-of-life-food-ministries/>

Information on Free Internet Access

- **Comcast** - For any students who do not currently have internet access, Comcast (Xfinity) is providing free internet access to the community through hotspots. You can visit <https://wifi.xfinity.com/> for information and hotspot locations.
- **Comcast (Xfinity)** is also offering a service called Internet Essentials; a low-cost internet service to those who qualify. Visit <https://www.internetessentials.com/> for further information.
- **Educause** is also offering information (and updating it) for many other providers and services (depending on student location and need). It's a one stop shop for connectivity ideas. <https://library.educause.edu/topics/teaching-and-learning/online-learning>

Scholarships and Assistance

- **The Fall 2020 Application for FCC Foundation Scholarships** – Beginning April 1, 2020, students may begin applying for FCC Foundation scholarships for the Fall 2020 semester. Students can apply for these scholarships at www.frederick.edu/foundationsscholarships. You will be asked to complete one general application which will identify scholarships you may be qualified to receive. The application will be open through June 30, 2020. Students will be notified of awards in July. To accept the award, students will be asked to complete and turn in a thank you note prior to the award being made available in their student account. For further information and any questions, please contact Michael Thornton, Scholarship Program Manager at mthornton@frederick.edu.
- **The FCC Foundation maintains a Student Success Fund** for currently enrolled students needing emergency assistance with food, and other needs. Students can self-apply at

www.frederick.edu/studentsuccess. Applications will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Transcript Requests

- **Official transcripts** can be requested from our expedited vendor, Parchment, at https://exchange.parchment.com/send/adds/index.php?main_page=login&s_id=ShOqCaAHV0imfs5

Campus and Community Events

FCC's Spring Break will still be observed for students and faculty April 6 - 12; and for staff and administrators April 8 - 12.

American Red Cross Blood Drive – Our blood drive, originally scheduled for April 2, has been canceled. However, the American Red Cross reports a dire need for blood donations. Please consider donating at another site. Online appointments can be scheduled at www.redcrossblood.org and you can search by zip code.

Athletics

All athletics activities--practices, games, post-season, and national championships--have been canceled for all spring sports.

<https://www.njcaa.org/general/2019-20/releases/20200317ey2h6u>

Additional concerns/inquiries can be emailed to the Director of Athletics, Chad Smith chasmith@frederick.edu or call the main office at 301.846.2500 and leave a message. Your message will be returned within 24 hours.

The Business Plan Contest will go on - online!

- the online application deadline has been extended from Friday, March 27 to Friday, April 3, 2020
- the deadline for the written business plan, which is also an online submission, remains Friday, April 17, 2020
- judges will meet via Skype on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 to review and score the written plans
- finalists will be notified ASAP, but no later than Friday, April 24, 2020
- final presentations will be held via Skype* on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 (original date; times to be confirmed)
- or an alternate online option; all finalists will be consulted to ensure access to technology

Special thanks to M&T Bank for providing the following scholarships through the FCC Foundation, Inc.:

- First Place is a \$2,500 scholarship
- Second Place is a \$1,500 scholarship
- Third Place is a \$1,000 scholarship

It is not too late to apply! The Business Plan Contest website will be updated with this information ASAP. www.frederick.edu/BusinessPlanContest

Student Clubs and Organizations - All in-person club meetings, activities, and events are canceled through May 20th. Clubs are welcome to continue meetings virtually. Please continue to check your MyFCC email for announcements and updates. If you have any questions, contact Jen Moxley at JMoxley@frederick.edu.

Service Learning – If your class has stated that you need to complete Service Learning hours as part of a class requirement, please contact your instructor for updates regarding the assignment. If you need assistance completing the requirements for class, please contact Jen Moxley at JMoxley@frederick.edu.

Your success remains our top priority. A student help line and email is available Monday through Friday at 301.846.2469 and Assist@frederick.edu.