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> The Groves Campus 7107 Elm Valley Drive PO Box 4070 Kalamazoo, MI 49003-4070 269.353.1253

> Kalamazoo Valley Museum 230 North Rose Street PO Box 4070 Kalamazoo, MI 49003-4070 269.373.7990



To Whom It May Concern,

Kalamazoo Valley began awarding Valley CARES to eligible students who submitted a Kalamazoo Valley CARES Application in April of 2020. Valley CARES dollars are federal stimulus dollars granted through the initial CARES Act (signed into law March 2020), the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (signed into law December of 2020), and the American Rescue Plan Act (signed into law March 2021). For students to qualify for these funds, Kalamazoo Valley created an application. We have adapted our application based student needs related to the disruption of campus operations due to the novel coronavirus. However, the CARES Act initially specified that the student grant portion cannot be used for tuition and fees and must be given to the student. We accomplished this by disbursing the funds on the student account and then issuing a refund to the student for the amount of disbursed funds.

Although the CRRSA Act and ARP Act allow for funds to be used for tuition and fees with additional student authorization, Kalamazoo Valley has not allowed Valley CARES funding to be used in this way. Since August, our application has specified two uses for Valley CARES funding: technology expenses and household expenses related to the pandemic. Prior to that change in the application, Valley CARES funds could be used for transportation, child care, etc. but not tuition and fees.

At this time, we have no intention to allow Valley CARES funds to be used for tuition and fees.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Alpha Chellulry

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Director of Financial Aid

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

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