EMERGENCY MICROGRANTS IMPACT REPORT

2020 · OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

STUDENT IMPACT AND RETENTION
APPLICANT DEMOGRAPHICS AND NEEDS
STUDENT AND STAFF TESTIMONIALS
DONOR CULTURE IMPACT
INTRODUCTION

Throughout 2020, 1,506 OHIO students facing financial difficulty turned to the Emergency Microgrants program to ease their hardships. Of those applicants, 45% were awarded short-term financial assistance with an average award of $457.

“OHIO HAS BECOME MY SECOND FAMILY. THIS IS JUST ONE OF THE MANY ACTS OF SOLIDARITY THAT BRINGS HOPE TO MY LIFE.”

“WIGHT WAS LIFTED OFF MY SHOULDERS. DURING THE PANDEMIC, I FELT LIKE BOBCATS HAD EACH OTHER’S BACKS.”

STUDENT IMPACT

IMPACT ON RETENTION
STUDENTS WERE ASKED IF RECEIVING A MICROGRANT HELPED THEM STAY IN SCHOOL

AVERAGE: 4.59

1 STRONGLY DISAGREE
5 STRONGLY AGREE
APPLICANT DEMOGRAPHICS AND NEEDS

CLASS YEAR
- Freshman: 3%
- Sophomore: 7%
- Junior: 18%
- Senior: 29%
- Medical Student: 2%
- Graduate: 41%

ORIGIN
- Domestic: 83%
- International: 17%

BREAKDOWN BY CAMPUS
- Athens: 80%
- Chillicothe: 5%
- ECampus: 5%
- Southern: 4%
- Zanesville: 3%
- Eastern: 2%
- Lancaster: 1%

PRIMARY IDENTIFIED NEEDS
- Rent: 68%
- Medical/Dental: 16%
- Basic Needs (Food, Utilities, Gas): 8%
- Car Repairs: 8%
- 63% of Recipients also used Cats’ Cupboard Food Pantry
COVID-19 FUND

$265,852
TOTAL FUNDS AWARDED

590
STUDENTS AWARDED
The COVID-19 Fund provided relief to 46% of applicants during the spring of 2020.

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

Students who are under-resourced are often only one financial crisis away from dropping out of school. Those students face a range of financial emergencies like a parent losing their job and becoming unable to help support their student’s living expenses, or a repair on a car that is required for the multiple jobs the student needs to support themselves. This program has given hope to those students so they can focus on their education and attain their dream of a college degree.

Kathy Fahl, Assistant Dean of Students

“THE COMING TOGETHER OF THE BOBCAT COMMUNITY REMINDED ME THAT WE ALL TAKE CARE OF ONE ANOTHER. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR GENEROSITY WILL BE PAID FORWARD.”