

Committee: Directly to Council Committee Review: N/A

Staff: Nicole Rodriguez-Hernandez, Legislative Analyst

Essie McGuire, Senior Legislative Analyst

Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected

Keywords: #MontgomeryCollege

AGENDA ITEM #7 October 5, 2021 Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Supplemental Appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget, Montgomery College, \$17,082,886 for the Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract budget (Source of Funds: Federal Grant)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County Council will receive testimony and consider action on a supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget, Montgomery College, \$17,082,886 for the Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract budget. The source of funds is the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Board of Trustees requested this appropriation amendment on August 16. The County Executive recommended his approval on September 17. The Council introduced the appropriation on September 21.
- This supplemental appropriation is needed for the College to utilize the funding prior to May 17, 2022. Specifically, funds will be used to defray expenses associated with the pandemic such as lost revenue, reimbursements for incurred expenses, technology costs, faculty and staff trainings, and payroll. In addition, the funds can be used for student support activities and allocated as additional financial grants to students.

This report contains:

Draft Special Appropriation Resolution ©1-3
Board of Trustees Request (August 16, 2021) ©4-7

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MEMORANDUM

September 17, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President, County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive Man El

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #22-12 to the FY22 Operating Budget

Montgomery College

United States Department of Education, CRRSAA Higher Education Emergency Relief

Funding Grant, \$17,082,886

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of Montgomery College in the amount of \$17,082,886 for funds disbursed through the United States Department of Education (USDE) directly to the College from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) grant, under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). This appropriation will provide funds, under statute and the additional guidance from the Department of Education, to Montgomery College that must be used to defray certain institutional costs related to the COVID-19 public health crisis. The College has until May 17, 2022, to expend these funds.

This supplemental appropriation is needed to provide spending authority for grant funds received from the USDE. As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.

I recommend that the County Council approves this supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$17,082,886 and specify the source of funds as United States Department of Education Grant.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

ME:rpm

Attachments:

- Montgomery College Interim President HEERF II FY22 Supplemental Appropriation Request
- Montgomery College Board of Trustees Resolution HEERF II FY22 Supplemental Appropriation Request

Cc: David Kunes, Chief of Staff to the Council President
Dr. Charlene Mickens Dukes, Interim President, Montgomery College
Jennifer R. Bryant, Director, Office of Management and Budget

| Resolution No.: | |
|-----------------|--|
| Introduced: | |
| Adopted: | |

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #22-12 to the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget Montgomery College

<u>United States Department of Education CRRSAA Higher Education Emergency</u> Relief Funding Grant, \$17,082,886

Background

- 1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
- 2. The County Executive has requested the following FY22 Operating Budget appropriation increases for Montgomery College

| Personnel | Operating | | Source |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Services | Expenses | Total | of Funds |
| | - | | |
| \$0 | \$17,082,886 | \$17,082,886 | United States Department of Education Grant |

3. This increase is needed to provide spending authority for the use of grant funds disbursed from the United States Department of Education (USDE) directly to the College under Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). As a grant award, there is no effect on the County's current or future maintenance of effort requirements.

Special Appropriation #22-12 Page 2

4. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of the Montgomery College is approved as follows:

| Personnel | Operating | | Source |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Services | Expenses | Total | of Funds |
| \$0 | \$17,082,886 | \$17,082,886 | United States Department of Education Grant |

| This is a correct copy of Council action. | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq. | | | |
| Clerk of the Council | | | |

August 16, 2021

The Honorable Marc Elrich County Executive Montgomery County Executive Office Building 101 Monroe Street Rockville, Maryland 20850

The Honorable Tom Hucker President Montgomery County Council 100 Maryland Avenue Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Elrich and Mr. Hucker:

The United States Department of Education has awarded Montgomery College the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) grant, under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), totaling \$23,080,761. The College requests the Montgomery County Council approve a supplemental appropriation to expend \$17,082,886 of these funds.

The Department of Education will disburse funds directly to the College. The funds, under statute and the additional guidance from the Department of Education, must be used to defray certain institutional costs related to the COVID-19 public health crisis. The College has until May 17, 2022, to expend these funds.

This request, combined with the May 17, 2021, supplemental appropriation of \$500,000, exhausts the total funding available for institutional aid by this HEERF II grant. The College now seeks a supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract Fund to expend the institutional portion of the HEERF II grant, authorized by Section 18004(a)(1) of the CRRSAA. This supplemental appropriation will increase the College's FY22 Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract Fund from \$17,355,000 to \$34,437,886. The College has designated these HEERF II funds for expenditures such as technology and Wi-Fi expansion, professional development for faculty and staff, HVAC enhancements, student reengagement activities, and lost revenue. With \$5.8 million of these funds, the College will serve 4,569 students by eliminating students' outstanding balances to MC—past due tuition and fees—from the fall 2020, winter 2020-2021, and/or spring 2021 term, in accordance with the grant's lost revenue option.

It is important to note that CRRSAA requires \$5,497,875 of the College's HEERF II grant be distributed to students for emergency assistance. The College provided this much-needed financial relief directly to students. As of June 30, 2021, the College has disbursed 2,881 student awards from this grant, totaling \$3,268,000. Combined with other CARES Act and HEERF grant funds directed to be used for student emergency assistance, MC has disbursed 11,800 student awards totaling over \$9 million from March 2020 to July 2021.

Thank you for your assistance.

Michael J. Knapp

Chair, Montgomery College Board of Trustees

Charlene Mickens Dukes, Ed.D.

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Interim President, Montgomery College

Attachment: Montgomery College Board Resolution

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Rockville, Maryland

Agenda Item Number: 8C June 21, 2021

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST FOR THE FY22 OTHER FUNDS BUDGET

BACKGROUND

On March 5, 2020, the governor of the state of Maryland proclaimed a state of emergency and health emergency to control and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus within the state. On March 11, 2020, the president of the College issued a memorandum detailing the College's response plan to the COVID-19 virus. The plan called for the College to begin providing instruction remotely, including counseling and support services, as well as requiring all nonessential employees to work remotely. Since then, the College has continued to operate remotely with restricted access to all campuses. In summer 2021, the College will begin taking steps towards a gradual return to onsite operations and classes.

On June 21, 2021, the Board of Trustees adopted the FY22 Current, Enterprise, and Other Funds budgets. The Other Funds Budget remains as adopted and no further changes are necessary to the Board's original adoption on January 27, 2021. Upon adoption, the Federal, State, Private Grants, and Contract fund was \$17,355,000. Subsequent to adoption, the US Department of Education has awarded the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) grant, under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), to help Montgomery College ensure learning continues for students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On December 27, 2020, the CRRSA Act was signed into law to address the economic and financial burden for students and educational institutions due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States. The US Department of Education notified Montgomery College that the total funds available to the College is \$23,080,761. Of that amount, \$5,497,875 must be expended for emergency student assistance. The College has until May 16, 2021 to award these funds.

The balance of the funds, \$17,582,886, is available to the College for Institutional Costs. The College has until May 17, 2022 to expend these funds. Under section 314(c) of the CRRSAA, the Recipient may use these grant funds for the Recipient's Institutional Costs to defray expenses associated with coronavirus (including lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff trainings, and payroll); carry out student support activities authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended that address needs related to coronavirus; and make additional financial grants to students that may be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care.

On May 17, 2021, the Board of Trustees approved a supplemental appropriation request to the Montgomery County Executive and County Council for the FY21 Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract fund that included \$500,000 from the CRRSAA HEERF II grant. In order to expend the

balance of the CRRSAA HEERF II grant of \$17,082,886 in FY22, the College must request another supplemental appropriation from county government.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and support a supplemental appropriation request to the Montgomery County Executive and County Council in the amount of \$17,082,886 for the FY22 Federal, State, Private Grants and Contracts fund. This action will increase the FY22 Federal, State, Private Grants and Contract fund from \$17,355,000 to \$34,437,886.

BACKUP INFORMATION

Board Resolution

RESPONSIBLE SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Schena Mr. Sears

RESOURCE PERSONS

Ms. Greaney Ms. Garvin Aquilino Ms. Naughton