We know this is an unprecedented time of uncertainty and anxiety for our students and families. We also know that many may be affected from job reorganizations, furloughs, and reduced hours. Fortunately, there is help available.

**Federal Government Direct Payments**
The federal government will make one-time cash payments directly to citizens. Payments should be issued during April by check or direct deposit. How much will you receive?

- Individuals earning less than $75,000 will receive $1,200.
- Married couples earning less than $150,000 will receive $2,400.
- If you have children, you will receive $500 per child.
- Individuals earning more than $75,000 and less than $99,000 and couples earning more than $150,000 and less than $198,000 are eligible for a lesser amount.

**State Government Enhanced Unemployment Benefits**
If you lost your job, you can apply for unemployment benefits. **It is important to apply as soon as possible since processing may take a few weeks.** The federal government is funding the first week of benefits to encourage states to waive traditional waiting periods.

- Maryland residents go here: [https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/unemployment.shtml](https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/unemployment.shtml)
- Virginia residents go here: [http://www.vec.virginia.gov/unemployed](http://www.vec.virginia.gov/unemployed)

Also, Congress is enhancing state unemployment benefits to provide more income to more people:

- Adds $600 per week for four months in addition to state unemployment.
- Adds up to 13 weeks of additional unemployment benefits to those already enrolled but who are nearing the end of benefits.
- Now includes workers normally not eligible to receive unemployment benefits:
  - Freelancers and self-employed
  - Independent contractors/gig workers
  - Those with limited work history
  - Those still employed with reduced hours

**Pre-College Programs Is Here To Work with You**
We will continue to send you updates accordingly, and please continue to check the website for updates regularly. In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic we’re all in this together and we encourage everyone to continue to be safe and informed.