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## **New Jersey Colleges to Receive Additional \$11.9 Million through CARES Act to Assist Students in Need of Technological Resources**

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced Thursday that an additional \$11.9 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds will be distributed to New Jersey's colleges to help ensure students have access to internet and technological resources while learning remotely as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

This funding will be distributed to New Jersey's Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs), including institutions serving low-income students, to help ensure online learning remains possible for students who may have limited access to internet and other online tools necessary to complete their coursework.

This federal funding is in addition to the \$289 million that New Jersey's public and private non-profit institutions of higher education received through the CARES Act.

"While we are glad to see an additional \$11.9 million coming to New Jersey's institutions of higher education to help support our colleges and students in need, the Murphy Administration will continue advocating for more federal support, as this emergency has posed unprecedented financial hardships on the entire higher education community," said Dr. Zakiya Smith Ellis, Secretary of Higher Education. "As colleges transitioned to online learning environments, we worked with institutional leadership to help identify supports available to low-income populations. We know an online learning environment can pose challenges to a student's success, particularly for those with limited access to technology or whose family members must share computers and other devices to get their work done. We are hopeful that this additional federal funding will help bridge gaps to ensure students are given every opportunity to succeed."

For more information, please see the U.S. Department of Education's [announcement](#).