

Bridge Scholars Program Office of the Vice Provost(719) 389-6024

14. E Cache la Poudre Street Colorado Springs, CO 80903

July 28, 2020

Dear Bridge Scholars and Members of the CC Community,

Thank you for your letter and for transmitting your petition. We appreciate your care and advocacy for each other as a community. By now, incoming first year Bridge Scholars have received additional information from us with additional information and resources for support. In this note, I want to summarize the college's response and action since taken.

The **CC Covid Emergency Respond Fund** will continue to support students with hardship that is caused by Covid-19. For many CC students, whether they are new or continuing students, there are significant costs associated with the disruptions we are experiencing, including unexpected changes due to changes in schedules and interruptions to travel, among other disruptions. You can read more about the fund on the <u>fund webpage</u> and make requests to <u>emergencyrequests@coloradocollege.edu</u>.

The postponement of the college's early arrival groups presented risks of housing insecurity and food insecurity. In response, students who were affected were able to arrange early arrival to start living in their campus housing as early as their original move in dates. We have also worked with our campus food services provider, Bon Appetit, to provide food during the early arrival period for the students, until the regular meal plans begin during NSO move-in. If you were originally scheduled to move-in early and find that you situation has changed since the announcement last week and you need to arrive early, please contact Zak Kroger, <code>zkroger@coloradocollege.edu</code>.

Of special concern to Bridge Scholars, different from other groups of early arrival students, is the scholarship stipend. Although the BSP coursework and mentoring have now been moved online for August, all students who complete the BSP will continue to receive their \$400 stipend to offset lost wages, whether they will arrive to campus early or choose to arrive to campus later, or will matriculate and start their fall semester fully online. We recognize that no matter where you take your Bridge course, you are committing time to this learning and community opportunity and would not be able to hold down full-time employment, and therefore the scholarship stipend remains important.

The Covid-19 pandemic's effects on local, regional, national, and global communities will continue to change. College leadership will continue to diligently share information through multiple channels. If you want to review current and past communications, as well as summaries of protocols, FAQs, current task forces and working group rosters, please check the college's Covid-19 website. We also encourage you to follow the public health trends and advisories at the Colorado state, El Paso County, and national and international levels. As always, if there is a question for which you cannot find an answer, you can contact us at the Bridge Scholars Program for BSP questions. You can find the recent BSP communications on the BSP webpage, as well as a recording and the transcript of the information session. If you have other questions that are beyond the BSP, writing to CC's Covid-19 response email is a good place to get started if you are not sure whom to ask covid19@coloradocollege.edu.

The challenge of the pandemic will call for all of us—students, staff, and faculty—to collaboratively problem solve on many priorities and challenges this fall. Please get in touch with us anytime we can offer support. We look forward to charting forward in this unprecedented year together with you.

With best wishes,

Emily Chan, PhD

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Director, Bridge Scholars Program