

April 15, 2021

21-158

EMPLOYEE CONNECTIVITY STIPEND

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REPORT: On March 19, 2021, the Department of Education released guidance that Colleges will now be permitted to use CRRSAA funds for institutional lost revenue and expenses incurred as far back as March 13, 2020, the start of the national pandemic emergency.

The College recommends that resolution 21-147, allowing a one-time stipend payment of \$800 to eligible employees to pay for costs incurred on or after December 27, 2020 that are associated with an upgrade to existing Internet provider service or new Internet provider service be amended to reimburse for such costs incurred on or after March 13, 2020.

The stipend will continue to be funded through CRRSAA/CARES II dollars.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve amending resolution 21-147 to allow payment of a technology stipend as follows:

- That a one-time \$800 stipend be allowed for costs incurred on or after March 13, 2020 that are associated with an upgrade to existing Internet provider service or new Internet provider service;
- That the stipend be available to employees who have already incurred such costs, as well for future costs;
- That the stipend be paid on a post-tax basis; and
- That, in order to receive the stipend, employees must attest in writing that the stipend is critical to ensure continuity of their work.