

210,000 Grant Supports Launch of Emergency Grant Program at Grand View University

Grand View University has received a \$210,000 Dash Emergency Grant from Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates to operate and maintain a student emergency aid program. Emergency grants will be integrated into the college's overall student success strategy with the goal of improving retention and completion rates.

Grand View serves students from diverse backgrounds, and a situation that might be a headache for one can be a major financial crisis for another. If a student is already struggling to make ends meet, an unexpected car repair or medical bill might cause that student to withdraw from college. "Thanks to the Dash Emergency Grant, Grand View has the resources to provide modest emergency grants to our students in times of greatest need," said Pam Christoffers, Special Assistant to the Provost.

Grand View will begin making student emergency grants in fall 2017. Students will complete an application detailing their financial emergency. A Grand View committee will review the application, and expenses up to \$1,000 will be paid within two business days of approval. By quickly removing financial distractions, students can refocus on their studies and continue toward graduation.

Grand View is one of the first four-year colleges to receive a Dash Emergency Grant from Great Lakes. A combined \$7.2 million in grants was awarded to 32 colleges in Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Dash Emergency Grants for four-year colleges build on the success two-year colleges have achieved since Great Lakes began supporting emergency grant programs in 2012. These colleges report students who receive emergency grants stay in school at better rates and graduate in larger numbers.

"We're pleased to extend our Dash Emergency Grant to Grand View University and other four-year colleges to help more at-risk students overcome financial obstacles to completion," said Richard D. George, President and Chief Executive Officer of Great Lakes.

About Great Lakes: Dedicated to making college education a reality since 1967.

Knowing that education has the power to change lives for the better, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates was established as a nonprofit group focused on a single objective: helping students nationwide prepare for and succeed in postsecondary education and student loan repayment. As a leading student loan guarantor and servicer, Great Lakes has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education to provide assistance and repayment planning to more than 8 million borrowers—as well as assistance to colleges and lenders nationwide. The group's earnings support one of the largest and most respected education philanthropy programs in the country. Since 2006, Great Lakes has committed over \$200 million in grant funding to promote higher education access and completion for students of color, low-income students, and first-generation students. For additional information, visit home.mygreatlakes.org.

Pam Christoffers and Julie Bantz are serving as Co-Directors of this grant. Any questions should be directed to one of them.