## Dear GMC Students,

We trust you are all safe and doing well during these challenging times. Please know we care about you and your family as we navigate through unchartered waters associated with the coronavirus. The entire GMC Family is doing our very best to ensure your success and your academic goals are met. We also understand the transition from in-seat learning to remote/distance learning through your campus or the Global Online College may have created unexpected financial expenses. Fortunately, our federal government also recognizes the financial burdens the COVID-19 crisis has placed on our Students. To address at least some of the financial stress, your U.S. Congress passed, and the President signed legislation, called the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. As part of the Act, the U.S. Secretary of Education will soon provide emergency award grants for most of you, our Students. GMC will release the award grants immediately upon receiving the funding.

The U.S Secretary of Education did specify specific criteria for a Student to be eligible to receive a grant. First, you must have been a GMC Student enrolled in the 2020 Spring term to be issued a CARES Act Grant Award to help defray the cost and disruption of in-seat course(s) transitioning to remote/ distance learning. Additionally, the <u>Department of Education</u> also <u>specified</u> there are some <u>non-eligible students and these include</u>: students enrolled <u>only</u> in distance learning (no in-seat classes during the term) during the 2020 Spring Term; students not eligible to file for FAFSA (including international students and DACA students); non-degree seeking students; dual and joint enrolled students, and transient students. The guidance from the Department of Education does not allow GMC to award grants to students in the categories identified above.

The GMC CARES Act Policy and updates to the CARES Act Grant will soon be posted to the GMC website and on social media. Once funding is received from the Department of Education, GMC is prepared to release CARES Grant awards directly to eligible Students. If you have on file at GMC a direct deposit account, we will send the award grant directly there; for those without direct deposit, your award grant will be sent via U.S. Mail to the address on file at GMC.

Thank you for your continued understanding and patience as we journey together through these extraordinary times. If you have any questions, please send them to <a href="mailto:taddison@gmc.edu">taddison@gmc.edu</a>.

William B. Caldwell, IV Lieutenant General, U.S. Army (Ret.) President Georgia Military College