

RECOVERY starts here

Lawrence Technological University's Stimulus Package for Displaced Workers

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the *Recovery Starts Here: Lawrence Technological University Stimulus Package*?

The *Lawrence Technological University Stimulus Package* is multi-faceted and designed to support Michigan citizens and address their concerns about the future. People are concerned about having a job, acquiring the skills that new jobs require, attaining a new job, and having the funds needed for professional development and education. This stimulus package includes substantial tuition assistance grant incentives, access to new educational programs that prepare graduates for global opportunities, and a career counseling component.

Who is eligible for the *Lawrence Tech Stimulus Package*?

Displaced workers, or the dependent children of displaced workers, who meet Lawrence Tech's admissions criteria are eligible for the Recovery Grants for tuition assistance. The Career Networking Receptions and Workshops are open to any displaced worker with a college degree.

How do candidates for admission prove they are displaced?

When applying for admission, and along with meeting the admissions requirements of the program in which they are interested, candidates must provide a dated buyout letter, separation agreement, or unemployment application to show they are displaced.

What will the Recovery Grants, Career Networking Receptions, and Workshops do?

The newly created grants will fund half of the tuition for a Lawrence Tech undergraduate or graduate program. Lawrence Tech is a private university providing rigorous, cutting-edge degree programs that represent tremendous value as investments in the future. The University has created these extraordinary grants because this is an unprecedented time in Michigan and the nation.

The Career Networking Receptions are designed to bring qualified workers who already possess college degrees together with employers who have jobs available now. The Workshops are designed to help displaced workers develop strategies for successful placement and present themselves during interviews to best advantage. Participation is open to all displaced workers who have college degrees and is not limited to Lawrence Tech students and alumni.

Why is Lawrence Tech offering this package now?

Lawrence Tech aims to be part of the solution to address the needs of Michigan's citizens. Most degrees recently launched by the University are in areas of the new economy. A historic focus of Lawrence Tech's mission has been educating adult students. Lawrence Tech was a pioneer in the field and has an over 75-year record of success in doing it well.

Over 40 years ago, Lawrence Tech President Wayne Buell observed that Lawrence Tech was "*a private university serving a public purpose.*" A parallel mission thought key by the Lawrence brothers, Russell and George, who founded Lawrence Tech during the Great Depression, was to educate adult students to enable them to pursue better opportunities. The Lawrences believed that access to a quality college education should not be denied due to a person's job schedule or lack of finances. Lawrence Tech aims to remain true to that heritage today. The University is acting proactively and rapidly, as *a private university serving a public purpose*, providing expanded opportunities for students.

What is Lawrence Tech doing for its current students?

Lawrence Tech already provides considerable assistance to current students to help assure educational access and affordability. Some 70 percent of current students receive some form of financial aid.

Lawrence Tech's enrollment management team anticipated aspects of the current downturn months ago. In this year alone, Ford Motor Co., Chrysler LLC, and General Motors have eliminated tuition reimbursements. This has affected over 80 Lawrence Tech students at Ford, 400 at Chrysler, and 100 at GM. Mindful of the unsettling impact of these cutbacks on current students, Lawrence Tech responded quickly.

The University developed no-interest payment plans with short-term and long-term options to help affected students continue their academic progress. Some \$1,000 in tuition and fees was waived from the accounts of affected students to reduce their tuition obligation. Scholarships were increased for graduate students, the largest group affected by the elimination of corporate tuition reimbursement. Need-based grants were increased. The credit hour limit for transfer students to be eligible for transfer scholarships was eliminated.

The goal of all these measures is to provide the means for interested current or future students to continue their education.

Are there different delivery options for students to take courses?

Yes. Lawrence Tech offerings are available when needed. Students can earn degrees exclusively in the evening. Many courses or degrees are also available during the day. Day and evening courses can be taken in combination. In addition to Lawrence Tech's full-service Southfield campus, the University has education centers throughout the state, at Schoolcraft College, Macomb Community College, Petoskey, and Traverse City, Chrysler Tech Center and Jeep and Truck, and Lansing Community College. Many degrees and course work are offered fully online. Some master's programs are offered on weekends. Hybrid courses are also offered, where students can attend one week online and another week in class.

How many students can benefit from the Recovery Grants?

In order to sustain its financial viability as well as the distinctive academic quality for which it has for so long been acclaimed, Lawrence Tech will initially limit the Recovery Grants to 200 undergraduate students and 200 graduate students. An assessment will take place each semester to determine if additional students can be added. And, if additional outside contributors step forward to support this initiative, Lawrence Tech may be able to expand the program.

How long will students be able to take advantage of the Recovery Grants?

Students who are displaced workers (or the dependent children of displaced workers) will receive the Recovery Grants until they graduate as long as they remain in good academic standing with the University and make satisfactory progress toward graduation.

Are non-Michigan residents eligible?

Yes. However, because some 85 percent of students historically commute to campus, it is expected that most participants will be Michigan residents. A number of Lawrence Tech degree programs are conveniently offered online, and can and do attract students from other states.



Lawrence Tech is a proud partner of the Keep Michigan Working coalition

