



January 18, 2019

Dear HWC Family,

As many of you know, our country is in the midst of a government shutdown. While some of you may not *feel* the effects of our current state directly, the fact is -- there are many individuals, especially federal workers and even federally funded service-centered organizations, that are indeed experiencing difficulties at this time.

I want you know that Harold Washington College remains an institution that builds and cares for our communities and students. As we go through this time together, please know that we are here for you. I will continue to keep you all posted with helpful resources and updates as I receive them, including the following:

- For students who are having difficulty in sourcing the documentation needed to verify their FAFSA/ISIR information, as a result of the shutdown, please note that the government has eased up on a few verification procedures, including *income tax return* and *verification of non-filing* documents. See communications from the Department of Education [here](#). If you are/were having troubles filing, or if you have any financial aid concerns, please see your financial aid advisor or call the Financial Aid Office at (312) 553-6041 for more information.
- Faculty and staff, given the potential delay in financial aid funding, some of our students may have difficulty purchasing books and supplies necessary to be successful in your courses. I encourage you to work with our Student Services team, [The Wellness Center](#) or our [Legal Clinic](#) to provide the best support for our students given these circumstances.
- For our family members who may find it difficult to access basic necessities such as food at this time, please know that Harold Washington College is home to the first *Healthy Food Market* on City Colleges of Chicago grounds. This service provides free and fresh foods twice a week on Mondays from 9:00am - 5:00pm and Thursdays from 9:00am to 7:00pm. As long as you have a valid ID, you are welcomed to shop at the market, during the government shutdown.

I am hoping our government will come to a peaceful resolution and that those affected by this will heal and continue on with their lives. In the meantime, take care of yourselves and let us know if there's anything else we can do to support you.

Best,

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