

Message from University Human Resources: Remote work, Work Share, federal CARES Act supplement – July 23, 2020

To all EMU non-instructional staff:

We'd like to thank all of you for your flexibility and patience as over 700 of you have participated in the State of Michigan's Work Share program this summer.

Remote Work

We want to remind you that we remain in Phase 4 of the Michigan's Safe Start Plan. That means, among other things, that if you can accomplish your work remotely you need to continue to work remotely. A month ago, we hoped to begin bringing employees back to work on campus, in stages, beginning the week of August 3, 2020. That is no longer a possibility. We continue to evaluate when our workforce may be able to safely return to work on campus. We ask that you continue to work remotely if you are able and discuss your work schedule with your supervisor.

End of Work Share Program

EMU's current participation in the Work Share program will conclude on August 1, 2020. That means that, as of August 2, 2020, you will be returned to your pre-Work Share program appointment. We ask that you coordinate with your immediate supervisor to discuss what your work schedule will look like as of August 2, 2020.

Federal CARES Act Supplement

As of the time this email was drafted, the weekly \$600 federal CARES Act supplementary payment that Work Share participants have been receiving every week (along with everyone else who received unemployment payments from state unemployment agencies) is due to expire at the end of this week. So, unless the federal government passes additional legislation, you will not receive a payment from the federal government to supplement your base Work Share payment (which is up to \$72 per day) for your participation in the Work Share program for the work week of July 26 through August 1. Like most other things during this time, the situation is very fluid, so we encourage you to keep your eyes on the news to see if the federal government passes legislation that may restore some, or all, of the weekly \$600 CARES Act supplement beyond July 25, 2020. Given the continued uncertainty surrounding EMU's finances, it is important that EMU continue to realize the costs savings due to Work Share participation through August 1.

Again, I thank you for all that you do for EMU.

Jeff Ammons
Interim Chief Human Resources Officer & Associate General Counsel