



## Say Yes Buffalo statement on the COVID-19 pandemic for our students and families

- Say Yes Buffalo is closely monitoring the evolution of precautions taking place on college campuses across the country in their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Many are choosing to move the remainder of spring semester classes online, and in some cases to cancel in-person classes and gatherings outright for the remainder of the semester
- Say Yes Scholars and their families should listen for communications from the colleges and universities they are attending, for up-to-the-minute information on school plans and policies
- Say Yes Buffalo recognizes that this is a fluid situation with decisions being made rapidly, and despite the best efforts of higher education institutions, the consequences of these decisions may negatively affect our students' academic success this semester
- **As a result, Say Yes Buffalo is implementing the following provisions for our scholars currently enrolled in the spring 2020:**
  - *Students who can confirm that their GPAs or credit attainment were negatively affected as a result of COVID-19 safety precautions put in place by their campus will automatically be granted an appeal, allowing them to remain eligible for Say Yes Buffalo scholarships and grants.*
  - *Examples include but are not limited to: A student whose classes were moved online and that student not having internet access to complete the classes; a student proving unsuccessful in an online setting and in need of in-person instruction, etc.*
  - *Additionally, assistance is available for our students who are at college out of town and forced to vacate campus, but are unable to do so due to financial restrictions. In partnership with Southwest Airlines, students can apply for a first-come, first-serve travel voucher to return home. Please note that these vouchers are extremely limited and available to students in all Say Yes to Education chapters.*
  - *We encourage our students that are facing extenuating circumstances during this period of uncertainty, be it food, shelter or anything further to reach out to us. We are available to help as we are able to do so!*

- *Please be aware that Spectrum-Charter Communications is offering 60 days of free broadband WIFI services to households of college and/or K-12 students that do not already have broadband internet through Spectrum-Charter. To enroll in Spectrum broadband service you can call 1-844-488-8395, the company says it will waive installation fees for student households.*
- *U-Haul is also offering 30 days of free storage for any college student who may need those services.*