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ASU students pump millions into local economy

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JONESBORO — Lauren Berkemeyer received nearly \$3,000 this semester in student aid to cover living costs as she attends

Arkansas State University.

Berkemeyer, a senior nursing major of Little Rock, said she uses a mixture of scholarships and student loans to pay for college, rent and other liv-

ing expenses.

It is her first year to live off campus, which she believes will save her money.

She believes the majority of the \$3,000 she received this semester will

be spent locally.

Berkemeyer is one of 7,100 students to recently receive \$21,527,148 in excess financial aid. Rick Stripling, vice chancellor of student affairs, said that funding is excess

money for students to spend on rent, food, etc.

Overall, Arkansas State's 13,410 students received \$115,348,228.67 in federal funding such as Pell grants, loans, work study; \$13,925,789.50

in state scholarships and grants; and \$20,113,082.77 in university scholarships.

Those funds are routed through the university

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