

CARES Act Disclosure – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Initial 30-Day Fund Report: **6/4/2020**

Updated reports 45 days thereafter.

1st 45-day report: **7/19/2020**

2nd 45-day report: **9/2/2020**

Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act” or the “Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), directs institutions receiving funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit (in a time and manner required by the Secretary) a report to the Secretary describing the use of funds distributed from the **Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund** (“HEERF”). Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

The Certification and Agreement directs each institution applying for HEERF funds to comply with Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act and submit an initial report (the “30-day Fund Report”) to the Secretary thirty (30) days from the date of the institution’s Certification and Agreement to the Department. Accordingly, the following information must appear in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and updated every 45 days thereafter:

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

a. Blake Austin College has signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement.

b. Blake Austin College has used, and intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students

2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student.

a. \$ 290,798

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

a. 6/5/2020 30 days: \$279, 375

b. 7/20/2020 45 days: **\$ 290,798 + \$52 = \$290,850**

c. 9/2/2020 45 day: **\$290,850**

4. The estimated total number of students at the institution eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

a. 254 students

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

a. 254 students

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Pell Grant and Title IV Eligibility Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and length of program currently enrolled.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

a. **May 14, 2020** Email Message from Joanie M. Reed, College President, sent to all current students outlining the availability of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the CARES Act and that an email with a link to the Emergency Financial Aid Grant Application was to follow through DocuSign.

b. **May 14, 2020** Email Message and HEERF Grant Application from Joanie Reed, College President, utilizing DocuSign, sent to all students further summarizing the HEERF Grants, Title IV eligibility criteria and a series of questions related to the impact of COVID-19 on their cost of attendance areas as well as if their employment has changed during this period.

c. **May 28, 2020** Email Message to all current students that the HEERF Grant Checks would be available for pick-up at the campus where they attend in the afternoon of Friday, May 29, 2020 or could be picked up on Campus as they returned for on-campus classes when we returned to modified campus class delivery the week of June 1, 2020.

d. **June 30, 2020 and July 1, 2020:** New students enrolled since the first disbursement of the CARES Act funds met with the Financial Aid and Business Office department personnel to discuss the availability of the CARES Act Student Emergency Financial Aid for all Title IV eligible students. Students were required to either have submitted a FAFSA or to self-certify that they were Title IV eligible to apply for the remaining HEERF grant funds for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus (eligible expense areas were specifically listed in the HEERF Application to students)

Fifty-two students submitted the HEERF application for the CARES Act funds. Funds were distributed on 7/2/2020.

e. **September 2, 2020** report: All Student HEERF Funds were distributed by 7/2/2020. No other funds are projected for distribution.

Joanie M. French-Reed
College President/CEO
Blake Austin College
6/4/2020; 7/19/2020; 9/2/2020