

CARES ACT REPORTING ON EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID GRANTS TO STUDENTS

On March 27, 2020, the Federal government enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Pub L. No. 116-136, providing funds to institutions from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to make 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, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. The law requires institutions to report certain information related to the use of these funds. The following information is reported for the period, May 4, 2020 to June 3, 2020.

- I. This statement shall serve to acknowledge that our institution signed and returned to the US Department of Education the *Certification and Agreement - Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students*. We further attest that our institution has used, and/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.
- II. The total amount of funds that Texas Barber College has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$431,899.00.
- III. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of June 3, 2020, is \$329,414.76.
- IV. The estimated total number of students at our 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 is 472.
- V. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to date is 347.
- VI. The following is the method used by our institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much each student has received/will receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

TBC calculated distribution of the funds evenly amongst students ($\$431,899/472 = \915.04 per student). The pool of students considered for emergency grant distributions were those students enrolled at TBC on March 13, 2020 (the date of the *Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak*) through May 12, 2020 (the day before TBC re-opened its campuses), and those students who graduated on or after March 13, 2020, but before the date of re-opening. Also included in that pool are students who were enrolled on March 13, 2020, but dropped from enrollment prior to May 13, 2020, however, TBC is waiting for guidance from the U.S. Department of Education to determine if those students are eligible to receive CARES Act grant funds.

Enrolled student eligibility for CARES Act grant funds was determined by such factors as returning to campus, participating in temporary distance learning, or submitting and obtaining approval for a Leave of Absence (LOA) on or after the reopening (May 13, 2020). TBC also requested students'

self-certification of having incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus via a questionnaire.

From June 4 through June 25, 2020, TBC will endeavor to contact the students within the designated pool, who did not yet satisfy eligibility requirements. Those who are in the pool of students considered for CARES Act emergency grant distributions, who have returned to campus or submitted and obtained an approved LOA, and who certify that they have incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus via a questionnaire within this 3-week period, will be issued a \$915.04 check.

On or about July 2, 2020, TBC will redistribute the remaining unclaimed funds to those students who received a check prior to June 26, 2020. In the event there are insufficient unclaimed funds to distribute evenly amongst this group, TBC will conduct a survey to determine who has the greatest need for the remaining funds, and distribute those funds accordingly.

VII. The follow instructions/directions/guidance was/will be provided by our institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

In questionnaires sent to students: “On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law. The CARES Act authorized the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund which provides emergency funding for students and institutions impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 9, 2020, the US Secretary of Education announced that the student funding was being made available to institutions to award and disburse to students who have incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, including eligible expenses under the student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.”

Each student was given the following printed publications along with his/her check: (i) *Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – Frequently Asked Questions from Students about the Higher Education Emergency Relief Student Grants* (see <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/studentfaqs515.pdf>); and (ii) *FAQs: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund and Emergency Financial Aid Grants under the CARES Act* (see <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/faqs-higher-education-emergency-relief-fund-and-emergency-financial-aid-grants-under-the-cares-act>).

In a receipt signed by each student who received a check: “I hereby certify by signing below that I have incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and/or child care expenses, and therefore I have a need for the amount of the CARES Act Grant. Further, I understand that I am to use the CARES Act Grant for the expenses I have incurred due to disruption of campus operations caused by the coronavirus. I hereby attest that my certification and understanding stated above is true and correct. I understand I am receiving the CARES Act Grant to assist me with costs that I have incurred related to the COVID-19 pandemic. I further acknowledge that while my school will attempt to assist me to the greatest extent possible, I understand funds are limited and are to be shared among all eligible students.”