

CARES Act Student Emergency Fund Report

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Reporting: Emergency Financial Aid Grant to Students

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) submitted the Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and was awarded \$5,013,685 in HEERF funding effective April 22, 2020.

To receive funds under the CARES Act, Tri-C students must complete the College's CARES Act application. Students may request the application by contacting the College's Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office.

This 30-day fund report provides the amount of funds distributed to students, as of the report date. Hereafter, updates regarding the number of Tri-C students receiving CARES Act funds, as well as the total amount awarded, will be posted every 45 days.

- Tri-C submitted its certification and agreement form to the U.S. Department of Education on April 10, 2020, and received authorization to award funds under the CARES Act on April 22, 2020. Under this agreement, the College has committed to using no less than 50% of the total funds received to provide student emergency financial aid.
- The Student portion of CARES Act funding to be awarded is \$5,013,685.
- Under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of May 20, 2020, 760 students have been awarded CARES Act grants totaling \$890,035.
- The College identified 15,000 students enrolled for the Spring 2020 semester who met Title IV eligibility based on a valid FAFSA and other indicators, as required by Section 484.
- Students were instructed via email to contact the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to determine their eligibility for CARES Act funds. Information about CARES Act funds — including eligibility requirements — was disseminated via social media and on the College's public website. These eligibility requirements include:
 - Credit, degree-seeking students who experienced a disruption to their Spring 2020 courses and who were not enrolled in a fully online program.
 - Title IV eligible (per Section 484 of the Higher Education Act).
 - Ability to demonstrate emergency expenses or disruptions related to COVID-19.

These emergency expenses or disruptions are identified based on guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Education. They include, but are not limited to:

- Food assistance
- Housing assistance
- Child care emergencies
- Health emergencies
- Technology and equipment needs
- Transportation emergencies

Students with demonstrated emergency expenses or disruptions related to COVID-19 during the Spring 2020 semester may be eligible for funds up to \$1,500. CARES Act applications are reviewed by Student Financial Aid and Scholarships staff. The application review process confirms student eligibility, under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, to receive student emergency grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

- Completed applications are reviewed within 7-10 business days. Refunds are paid directly to the student, by the Student Accounting Services office, via direct deposit or check by mail.

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- The amount awarded is determined based on the emergency expenses or disruptions documented by the student and by applying the estimated cost of attendance budget amounts used in other financial aid awarding guidelines.