

CARES Act Reporting

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

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE FUND REPORT

REPORT DATE: March 31, 2022

Overview:

University of Louisiana at Lafayette Fund Report Overview: 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").

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette (UL Lafayette) hereby addresses questions for the "Fund Report":

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.**

UL Lafayette completed and submitted the Funding Certification Agreement on Friday, April 13, 2020. A team was established in order to deliver 50% of the funding to students impacted by the COVID - 19 pandemic.

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 Students.**

UL Lafayette received \$30,899,244 in funding to be distributed for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

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).**

\$30,878,739.00 was given to students by the end of the reporting period.

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.**

Initially, we estimate that approximately 9,700 students are eligible to receive funds.

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.**

21,007 students received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant by the end of the reporting period.

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.**

The University has finalized and initiated the process, according to federal guidelines, for administering CARES Act Grants to students, which includes assessing student need, determining individual payments, and distributing funds.

All students will be notified as to their preliminary eligibility status for a CARES Act Grant via an email to their University-issued email addresses. Preliminary eligibility was based on the requirement that students meet the requirements of Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The requirements are verified through the federal financial aid application process; therefore, the University required all students who wished to be considered for a CARES Act Grant to have submitted a 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by May 15, 2020.

Submission of the Certification Form is part of the process to determine eligibility for the grant. The form is used for a student to attest to their need for the CARES Act Grant by certifying that they have incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations because of the coronavirus pandemic. Eligible expenses include food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and childcare.

Every eligible student who completes the Certification form will receive a CARES Act Grant. CARES Act Grants will be awarded based on registered hours as of March 13, 2020, and according to the following schedule:

Undergraduate students who are not Pell eligible

- *Full-time students - Undergraduate students with 12+ hours - \$400.00*
- *Part-time students - Undergraduate students with 6-11 hours - \$300.00*
- *Less than half-time students with 1-5 hours - \$300.00*

Undergraduate students who are Pell eligible

- *Full-time students - Undergraduate students with 12+ hours - \$900.00*
- *Part-time students - Undergraduate students with 6-11 hours - \$700.00*
- *Less than half-time students with 1-5 hours - \$400.00*

Graduate students

- *Full-time students - Graduate students with 9+ hours - \$400.00*

- *Part-time students - Graduate students with 5-8 hours - \$300.00*
- *Less than half-time students with 1-4 hours - \$300.00*

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

The university has sent emails to students to encourage them to complete the certification process for the CARES Grant funding. Students are able to access the certification form from the UL Lafayette website on the CARES Act webpage. We have provided instructions and FAQ information on CARES Act Funds. The university is monitoring applications received and responding as soon as possible to requests and questions submitted to the financial aid office.