

## **Stockton University CARES Emergency Grants to Students**

## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report, May 21, 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). On April 9, 2020, the Department published documents related to the Emergency Financial Aid Grants, including a <u>letter</u> from Secretary Betsy DeVos, the <u>Certification and Agreement</u> form for signing and returning by institutions to access the funds, and a list of institutional allocations under 18004(a)(1).

In accordance with the directive contained in the Secretary's Electronic Announcement, published on May 7, 2020, each HEERF participating institution must post the following information listed below on the institution's primary website.

- 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) Stockton University signed and returned the required Funding Certification and Agreement on April 11, 2020. We have reserved no less than 50% 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 Students.
  - a) Stockton University has received \$5,020,619, which has been reserved for the Stockton CARES Emergency Grant program. These funds will be provided to eligible students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus
- 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) As of May 21, 2020, Stockton has processed payments to students totaling \$1,978,087.
- 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) The total enrollment during the Spring 2020 semester is 9,367. Of those students, Stockton University estimates that at least 85% of the students meet the Secretary's prescribed student eligibility criteria and are therefore eligible to receive these grants, assuming they incurred expenses related to the disruption in campus operations due to the coronavirus.
- 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) As of May 21, 2020, 1,049 students have received a payment of Stockton CARES Emergency Grant.
- 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.
  - a) Stockton University determined student eligibility by reviewing the criteria set forth by the Secretary of Education. The amount of each grant was determined using the expenses incurred as reported by the student on their request document and the funding available. Special consideration was given to those students who have demonstrated need such as unemployment and Pell Grant eligibility. In some cases the total requested amounts were capped by the maximum Pell Grant of 2019/2020.
- 7) Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.
  - a) The instructions and guidance provided to students are published on Stockton University's CARES page located at <a href="https://www.stockton.edu/CARES">www.stockton.edu/CARES</a>.