

## California State University, Dominguez Hills CARES Act Report

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The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) posted an electronic announcement with some preliminary reporting requirements for institutions that have received funds through the CARES Act's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

"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. The Department will provide instructions for providing the required information to the Secretary in the near future.

**In the meantime, each HEERF participating institution must post the 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.
  - CSUDH hereby acknowledges that the University signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and assures that the institution intends to use no less than 50 per cent 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.
  - CSUDH has received a total of \$112,913,443 in CARES Act funds, of which \$46,664,545 will be used 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).
  - As of September 30, 2021, \$18,481,278 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants have been disbursed to students.
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.

- The estimated number of students eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants is 17,716. We will continue to award students as they submit a FAFSA to determine Title IV eligibility.
- 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.
  - The number of students who received CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants is 17,716 as of September 30, 2021.
- 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.

#### CSUDH Model for Determining Eligibility for Emergency Financial Aid Grant Funding

Funding Methodology - Following guidance from the Department of Education and CSU Chancellor's Office, CSUDH established three operational principles to guide the distribution of these grants:

- **Student Success**—to help alleviate financial distress students are experiencing due to COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **Equity**—all students have experienced some type of impact due to COVID-19 pandemic, but those impacts have been uneven, with greater negative impacts on students from historically underserved communities. Students should receive different levels of grant aid proportional to their financial difficulty.
  - **Timeliness and administrative simplicity**—ensure access for the greatest number of deserving students possible to receive emergency aid as needed, with minimal administrative processes.
- CSUDH considered currently enrolled undergraduate, graduate and professional students who are eligible to receive federal financial aid for an emergency grant using the funds provided through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Specifically, students enrolled full-time and part-time are eligible.
  - Per federal guidance, students enrolled exclusively in an online program prior to March 13, 2020, international and undocumented students are not eligible for HEERF emergency grants and were excluded from the Spring 2020 enrollment population.
  - Students with the lowest income status who received maximum levels of state and/or federal financial aid and students with some financial need who received some state and/or federal financial aid were separated into Tier I and Tier II groupings. Using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid calculated Expected Family Contribution was used to group students into levels of financial need.

Tier I – Federal Pell Grant Eligible Students would receive an Emergency Grant based on their calculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Calculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	Full-time Grant Amount	Part-time Grant Amount
0-500	\$ 965.00	\$ 482.00
501-3,500	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00
3,501-5,776	\$ 700.00	\$ 350.00

Tier II – Non-Federal Pell Grant Students

Calculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	Full-time Grant Amount	Part-time Grant Amount
5,776	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00
5,777-50,000	\$ 350.00	\$ 175.00
50,001-99,999	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
99999+	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00

- Working with campus administration, the CSUDH Financial Aid Office carefully reviewed all eligible students in accordance with the guidelines as established by the CARES Act. A tiered funding model was created that attends to our most needy students while ensuring some level of relief for everyone. The funding model was reviewed and approved by the appropriate administrators to ensure that the calculations were as accurate as possible.
7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.”
- Emergency Financial Aid Grants information and guidance is provided at the following webpage: <https://www.csudh.edu/alert/cares-act/>