

## **CARES Act Department of Education Report Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) - Emergency Grants to Students**

*For quarter ending June 30, 2021*

### **Certification and Agreement**

On April 16, 2020, Marymount California University (MCU) signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds and 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. MCU received its Grant Award Notification on April 25, 2020. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act passed on Dec. 27, 2020 and the University received CRSSA notification on January 19, 2021. MCU received its Grand Award Notification for the American Rescue Plan (ARP) on May 16, 2021.

### **Total Amount of Funds Received**

MCU has/will receive a total of \$2,060,466 from the Department of Education (\$437,233 in HEERF I, \$437,233 in HEERF II, and \$1,186,000), representing 50 percent of funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to be provided directly to students in the form of CARES Act Emergency Relief Grants for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

### **Total Amount of Funds Disbursed**

As of June 30, 2021, MCU has distributed \$874,466 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 479 students.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the following dates:

4/30/2021: \$903  
4/09/2021: \$31,080  
3/31/2021: \$737.50  
2/25/2021: \$40,250  
2/22/2021: \$77,012.50  
2/11/2021: \$5,750  
2/09/2021: \$281,500  
1/04/2021: \$17,233  
6/25/2020: \$108,500  
5/19/2020: \$311,500

### **Estimated Number of Eligible Students**

The estimated total number of students eligible to participate in programs under section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student under 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is approximately 479.

### **Total Number of Student Recipients**

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the following dates:

4/30/2021: 35  
4/09/2021: 83  
3/31/2021: <10  
2/25/2021: 40  
2/22/2021: 80  
2/11/2021: <10  
2/09/2021: 313  
1/04/2021: <10  
6/25/2020: 11  
5/19/2020: 469

### **Methods Used to Determine which Students will Receive Emergency Grants and How Much**

The CARES Act specifies that funds, by way of direct cash grants, should be used to assist students with "expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus." Some examples of unexpected expenses incurred by students at this time are improved hardware or software at home, access to the internet, or other provisions.

The legislation limits eligibility for CARES Act funds only to students eligible to receive federal financial aid (students eligible to participate in programs under section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965), excluding assistance to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and international students. Internal reporting showed that 453 current Spring 2021 MCU students were eligible to receive a portion of the CARES Act funding and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The HEERF III American Rescue Plan expanded eligibility to international and DACA students.

In determining a distribution plan to MCU students for the CARES Act HEERF II CRSSAA funding, the university created three student populations based on need to determine the Emergency Financial Aid grant amounts. The first population, FAFSA eligible students with no demonstrated need, consisted of 97 students and received a grant of \$500. The second population, students with completed FAFSAs with demonstrated need, consisted of 150 students and received a grant of \$750. The third population, Pell-eligible students, consisted of 201 and received a grant of \$1250. The University will continue this needs-based approach for the distribution of the HEERF III American Rescue Plan emergency grants, planned for September 2021.

In order to assist eligible students with emergency funding outside of the distribution plan above, an application was created for students to apply for additional funding based on financial hardships directly related to the COVID pandemic.

### **Instructions, Direction and Guidance Regarding Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) - Emergency Grants to Students**

Webpage: MCU developed a Coronavirus Update page to provide information to all MCU students about activities at MCU being impacted by COVID-19. CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant funding and procedures at MCU are posted under CARES Act Updates.

MCU will continue to monitor guidance and update reporting and distribution of funds accordingly.

Announcements sent to all students:

- Announcement to all students was sent on June 22, 2021 about the ability to repackage their financial aid if their personal or family income has changed. This statement was also posted on the CARES Act webpage.
- An application to apply for emergency funding was prominently posted on the CARES Act webpage.
- Students with questions about CARES Act funding were encouraged to email [financialaid@marymountcalifornia.edu](mailto:financialaid@marymountcalifornia.edu).