

# **CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)**

09/24/2020

This public notice is posted on Central Oklahoma College's main website (Centraloc.edu) in accordance with U.S. Department of Education guidance.

1. Central Oklahoma College signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the HEERF Certification and Agreement indicating at least 50% of any funding it will use under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act will provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. Central Oklahoma College has been approved and has received \$504,384 in HEERF funding. At least half of any funds used by the institution will be disbursed directly to eligible students.
3. As of July 10, 2020, \$252,977.50 has been disbursed to 309 students determined to have met the eligibility requirements.
4. Disbursements were made to students that met the following attendance conditions (approximately 309).

## **For June 11, 2020 Disbursement**

- Students who moved to online education and graduated between 03/19/2020 and 05/31/2020.
- Active students who were currently attending of 05/31/2020

## **For July 10, 2020 Disbursement**

- Active students as of 06/30/2020 that began attending Central Oklahoma College prior to 06/01/2020.
5. As of July 10, 2020, 309 students received Emergency Financial Aid grants under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act
  6. Once student eligibility was determined, eligible students fell into two categories, either Pell eligible or non-Pell eligible. Based on eligibility, funds would be dispersed as follows:

**Pell eligible students would receive \$600 on June 11, 2020 and approximately \$377.50 on July 10,2020.**

**Non-Pell eligible students would receive \$400 on June 11, 2020 and approximately \$277.50 on July 10, 2020**

7. Central Oklahoma College's priority was to disperse funds as soon as possible once the grant was received. Grant aid funds for students are to be used for expenses related to the disruption of their education due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The funds are for additional expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, and childcare. Because all students attending classes on campus shifted to distance education, we are assuming that all of the students who started courses on campus incurred some of these additional expenses.

Additionally, the Department of Education has mandated that students who have incurred these additional expenses be required to be eligible for Federal Student Aid to receive the CARES Act emergency grant aid funds. Students must meet the following criteria to satisfy this mandate. Students who do not meet all of the following criteria will not be eligible to receive any emergency grant aid fund.

Students must:

- Be currently enrolled and actively attending Central Oklahoma College at the time of disbursement
- Have filed or be eligible to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Not owe a refund on a Federal Pell Grant or be in default of a Federal Student Loan to the Department of Education
- Be in a satisfactory academic progress status
- Have proof of a high school diploma/GED or completed high school in an approved home school setting
- Be a citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Have a valid Social Security Number
- Have registered with Selective Service, if male