CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Reporting-Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

On May 6, 2020, the Office of Postsecondary Education published requirements for Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) reporting. Reporting for HEERF funds distributed to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) begins 30 days after obligation of funds from the U.S. Department of Education. This information must also be updated no later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter.

Report Date: October 1, 2020

 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.

On May 18, 2020, the Certification and Agreement was signed and returned to the Department of Education. Furthermore, the University of Alabama at Birmingham 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.

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.

The total amount of funds that the institution will receive from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$6,065,628.00.

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 calendar quarter thereafter).

As of September 30, 2020, the total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students is \$6,065,628. This completes the distribution of this CARES Act allocation for the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

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.

UAB has 10,663 students that are eligible for Title IV funding and therefore eligible for CARES Act funding.

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 total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 10,663.

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.

On May 19, 2020 a mass communication was sent to eligible students. Students were directed to complete a certification documenting their COVID-19 related expenses. Certifications were reviewed to determine if a student's request meets appropriate qualifications. UAB is awarding funds based on a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC), with funds ranging from \$400 to \$1,500. The actual grant depends on the students EFC, expenses, and availability of funds.

In addition to the grants described above, on June 24, 2020 we disbursed grant funds to eligible students who did not complete a certification. Each student received \$315.

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

The University of Alabama at Birmingham created the following website to inform students of <u>CARES Act Funds</u>. This website outlines the eligibility criteria for the funds, the distribution method, and Frequently Asked Questions. In addition, below is a link to the mass communication sent to eligible students.