

CARES ACT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

REPORT #5 | MARCH 31, 2021

The following report has been completed in accordance with [guidance](#) issued by the Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education on May 6, 2020*.

- 1. An acknowledgment 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.**

The University of Mount Union submitted the required CARES Act Grant [Certification and Agreement](#) via grants.gov on April 23, 2020. The University will comply with all guidance provided by the Department of Education and will use no less than 50 percent of award funds 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 University of Mount Union received \$1,104,794 in aid from the Department of Education, which represents 50 percent of funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

- 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 March 31, the University of Mount Union has distributed \$1,104,794 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.**

Per the initial guidance issued by the Department of Education stipulating the eligible recipients for CARES Act Student Aid funds, and as of May 1, 2020, the total number of students eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 of the HEA, and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act was 1,865.

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.

As of March 31, the total number of students who have received CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid grants is 722.

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.

The University of Mount Union's Office of Student Financial Aid has been working closely with various departments to ensure timely, accurate distribution of Emergency Financial Aid Grants to eligible students. The following details the institution's processes for eligibility determination and awarding of funds.

Student Eligibility

- Student is eligible for Title IV aid
- Student has filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Department of Ed is not enforcing Title IV eligibility requirements as of 5/22/2020. Students must be a U.S. Citizen but may apply if they have not filed a FAFSA.
- Student is meeting all financial aid satisfactory academic progress standards
- Student has expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses

Awarding Procedures

- Student completes online COVID-19 Funding Request form
- Award amount is determined by awarding matrix. Student will receive their requested amount, or the max grant amount indicated on award matrix, whichever is less. Awards in excess of the maximum grant amount on the matrix may be approved if the student's situation warrants an exception.
- Maximum amount per student is \$3,000. Awards in excess of the maximum grant amount may be approved if the student's situation warrants an exception.
- Financial aid contacts student with approved award amount and directions
- Financial aid disburses grant to student billing account
- Billing office refunds student in the form of check or direct deposit

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

The application and all pertinent information distributed to students regarding CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants is posted here.

Notification

- Established a [COVID-19 Student Emergency Grants](#) web page, including an application form
- Distributed a [news release](#) to local media
- Sent emails students and other constituents
- Offered reminders via the institution's social media channels
- Contact student via email with approved award amount and directions

**Please note that guidance was and continues to be updated on the CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund webpage. The University of Mount Union will continue to monitor guidance and update reporting and distribution of funds accordingly.*