

College of DuPage Award #P425E202088-20B.5.1
CARES Act Higher Education Student Emergency Relief Fund Report
October 10, 2021

College of DuPage presents the following informational report in accordance with Department of Education CARES Act (HEERF I, HEERF II, and HEERF III) Grant Awards. The College will ensure that this report appears in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and 18004(a)(2) and updated quarterly thereafter:

1. Acknowledgement

On May 17, 2021 College of DuPage signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement which assures that the institution will use the applicable amount of funds designated under the CARES Act (a)(1) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

2. Total Available Funding

College of DuPage received \$27,556,687 from the Department of Education pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the HEERF - CARES Act (a)(1) programs.

3. Total Funding Distributed to Date

As of September 30, 2021, funds totaling \$19,035,948 were distributed to eligible students. The amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the HEERF - CARES Act as of the date of submission will be reported quarterly.

4. Total Eligible Students

Based on the HEERF guidelines, as of September 30, 2021, 14,591 students at College of DuPage were determined to be eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the HEERF - CARES Act (a)(1) programs.

5. Total Number of Students Receiving Aid to Date

As of September 30, 2021, based on the HEERF Act guidelines, 11,942 eligible students at College of DuPage received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the HEERF - CARES Act 18004(a)(1) programs.

6. Method of Determination

Determination of Eligibility

In order to ascertain which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under the HEERF- CARES Act (a)(1) programs, the College used the following requirements to identify eligible students:

- Must be enrolled in at least one term from spring 2020 through summer 2021 and remained enrolled in the term past the tuition refund period

Refund Process

Students with demonstrated emergency expenses or disruptions related to COVID-19 during the spring 2021 semester may be eligible for \$250 per enrollment status, up to a maximum of \$1,000. Students enrolled less than half time for the term may be eligible for \$250, halftime eligibility is \$500, three-quarter time is \$750, and full-time is \$1,000.

Students may be eligible for an additional \$1,500 in direct disbursements through the application and an additional \$400 to cover tuition expenses. Between the hybrid award and application, a student could receive a maximum award of \$2,900.

Students who meet all eligibility requirements, and had an EFC of 5711 or less who were enrolled in direct deposit with the College of DuPage Finance Office had refunds deposited directly into their account in order to prioritize students with exceptional need. Students who are not enrolled in direct deposit received a check by mail.

The remaining portion of the HEERF II Student Funding award will be distributed based on application by the student for HEERF support on a first-come/first-serve basis based upon priority of need.

7. Additional Student Guidance

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

Application Method

The application process is available using an online form that allows students to indicate their eligibility. Using a drop-down list, students selected their unmet needs caused by the disruption of campus operations, transition to remote learning, and the impact the transition created. The form is reviewed by the financial aid and finance staff and funds are awarded based on unmet needs.

Students were informed by email on May 19, 2021, June 9, 2021, June 15, 2021, August 2, 2021, and August 23, 2021, of the availability of the revised CARES Act online application form through college email, and were able to start applying for CARES Act funds using the application. Notice of availability of funding is also posted on multiple pages of the college's website, with links that directly connect with the application site. Awards resulting from an application or appeal will be funded on a first-come/first-serve basis until the remaining student emergency aid funds are expended.

Guidance for Non-eligible Students

Students who request financial assistance but do not meet eligibility guidelines will be directed towards other possible resources including the College of DuPage Foundation, and state-based financial aid websites.