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# **CARES ACT 30-DAY FUND** REPORT

The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) provides funding to institutions for emergency financial aid grants to students whose lives have been disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic. Below is Coastal Carolina University's initial 30-Day report.

With regard to the CARES Act Section 18004(a) (1), Coastal Carolina University (CCU) acknowledges and assures that:

- 1. CCU was allocated \$10,054,347 under the CARES Act for emergency relief of students and the institution.
- 2. A signed Certification and Agreement was returned to the Department of Education on April 13, 2020 with the intention of using \$5,027,174 of funds to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
- 3. A signed Certification and Agreement was returned to the Department of Education on April 21, 2020 with the intention of using \$5,027,173 to cover institutional costs related to the disruption of campus operations.
- 4. \$4,598,400 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants have been provided to students as of May 22, 2020.
- 5. The estimated number of students 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 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 6,869.
- 6. As of May 22, 2020, 6,689 students have received funding.
- 7. Strategic members of CCU's staff developed the methods used to determine which students will receive the emergency funding, as well as how much they receive.

#### Method:

- Qualified students that were enrolled as of the last day of classes for Spring 2020 and incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19 were identified and awarded emergency
- \$428,773 was reserved for eligible students to apply for additional funding based on higher incurred expenses. The application will be reviewed by the University's Benevolence fund committee and eligible students will be awarded based on need.
- Students who are not eligible for Title IV funding are not eligible for funding from the CARES Act.
- Students who were enrolled only in online classes prior to March 13 will not be eligible for funding.
- Students with the greatest documented need using the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be prioritized. Individual disbursement amounts varied by student dependent on levels of financial need, as defined by Title IV regulations.
- · CCU Financial Aid & Scholarships verified and will continue to verify eligibility in accordance with the CARES Act.

Amount: Awards to each student will be determined by the following chart:

Student Category	Expected Family Contribution	Amount Per Student
Undergraduate Pell Eligible	\$0-\$5,576	\$900.00
Undergraduate Not Pell Eligible	Above \$5,576	\$500.00









Graduate Students N/A \$500.00

8. CCU Financial Aid & Scholarships has posted instructions and guidance for students regarding CARES Act funding on its **website**. Eligible students were emailed in May regarding eligibility status, encouragement to set up direct deposit for electronic receipt of these funds, and an application form to request additional funding.

## **CARES Act FAQs**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, a Federal Law enacted by Congress, includes funds to assist qualified students in need during the pandemic. Students enrolled at CCU for Spring 2020 who meet the qualifications below will receive an email in their CCU email inbox confirming eligibility for funds on May 8th. Should you have questions or need additional information about the award, please call (843) 349-2313 or email **finaid@coastal.edu** to speak with a financial aid counselor.

## Q: Who qualifies for the CARES Act Funds?



A: To be eligible for the CARES Act grant funding you must meet all the following criteria:

- You must be currently enrolled at CCU as of the last day of class for Spring 2020.
- You must have incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19
  crisis.
- · You must also be eligible for Federal Title IV funding by meeting all of the following requirements:
  - Not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants or loans.
  - o Not be in default on a Title IV loan.
  - $\circ~$  File "as part of the original financial aid application process" a certification that includes
    - A statement of educational purpose.
    - Student's SSN.
  - o Be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen.
  - Have returned fraudulently obtained Title IV funds if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges.
  - Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits.
  - $\circ~$  Have repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently.
  - o Have Selective Service registration verified.
  - o Have Social Security Number verified.
  - Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.
  - Be meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards as defined by the University and federal financial aid regulations.

Students who are not eligible for the CARES Act grant include: students without a FAFSA or with a rejected FAFSA; students who have not completed certain verification requirements; international, dual enrollment, transient, non-degree seeking, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students; and students who were totally enrolled in all online courses or an online program on or before March 13, 2020.

## Q: How and when will I receive the disbursement?



A: Students who already have direct deposit established with the University will receive their emergency funds by direct deposit. A check will be mailed to the address on record for students who have not set up direct deposit. Eligible students should receive an email confirming their disbursement by Friday, May 15, 2020.

A: Check your WebAdvisor account to identify your disbursement amount on "Student Finance" under the Student Accounts section. Individual disbursement amounts will vary by student dependent on levels of financial need, as defined by Title IV regulations.

### Q: How can I use the funds disbursed to me?

A: According to the Federal Department of Education it can be used for expenses related to the cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care.

Q: Will my disbursement be reduced by any outstanding balances that I may still owe?



A: No. If you meet the eligibility requirements, your disbursement amount will NOT be reduced by any outstanding balances that you may owe.

## Q: Will I be required to pay this money back?



A: No. This is a grant and you will not be required to pay it back.

Q: What if the amount I am awarded is not enough to cover my COVID-19 related expenses?



A: Students who meet all eligibility requirements that need additional assistance for their COVID-19 related expenses can apply for additional funds through the Dean of Student's Office

https://www.coastal.edu/deanofstudents/applicationforadditionalcaresactfunding/

Q: What if I'm not eligible for CARES funding but still have expenses?



A: Students not eligible for CARES funding may apply for funding from CCU's Student Benevolence funds. Awards are dependent on eligibility and available funds. Applications can be accessed https://www.coastal.edu/deanofstudents/studentbenevolencefunds/.

### Q: Who do I call if I have Questions?



A: For questions regarding eligibility, please reach out to a financial aid counselor at (843) 349-2313 or finaid@coastal.edu. For questions regarding disbursement, please reach out to student accounts at (843) 349-2159 or studentaccounts@coastal.edu.

















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