

CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Report

As provided by the U.S. Department of Education (Department”), Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), directs universities in receipt of federal funding under Section 18004 of the CARES Act to submit a report to the Secretary of Education describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”). Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

Pursuant to the May 6, 2020 guidance by the Office of Postsecondary Education on HEERF reporting, we are providing details on the use of these funds.

1. New Jersey Institute of Technology acknowledges that on April 10, 2020, the Certification and Agreement was signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education. This agreement assures 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 for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.
2. New Jersey Institute of Technology received \$4,055,485 on April 22, 2020 from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of 5/22/2020 is \$763,783.
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 is 6,700.
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 is 910 as of 5/22/2020.
6. The university used the following methods to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act:
 - Students can request CARES Act funding by completing an application to provide information specific to the impact each student has suffered due to the crisis.
 - Applications are reviewed for one or more of the allowable criteria suggested in the CARES Act legislation and other items including, but not limited to:
 - Expenses related to housing, food, medical, course materials, technology and child care
 - Enrolled in the Spring 2020 or Summer 2020 term as a matriculated student (students in a completely online program are excluded)

NOTE: Applicants who indicate on their application a loss of Institutional Work-Study on-campus job are reviewed to determine if they meet the allowable criteria for grant funding.

The amount students receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act varies on a case-by-case basis but may not exceed the maximum Pell award amount (\$6,195 for 2019-2020 and \$6,345 for 2020-2021).

7. Instructions and guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants include email campaigns, the application for grant funds, an FAQ page on the institution's website, policy, and weekly WebEx sessions.
 - FAQ: https://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/sites/financialaid/files/FA%20FAQs_EmergencyGrants_rev042220.pdf
 - Policy: https://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/sites/financialaid/files/CARES_policy_student_website%20final_rev042220.pdf
 - Application: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqZrcdj76u103nNGNDX42jKa2gYLRvELK08xCahWftIEtnw/viewform>
 - Main COVID-19 FA webpage: <https://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/covid-19-updates-financial-aid/>
 - Weekly WebEx Sessions: <https://www5.njit.edu/financialaid/covid-19-updates-financial-aid/>