

CARES Act Required Final Reporting: Covers All Remaining HEERF Fund Expenditures for Section 18004(a)(1)

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 on HEERF reporting guidance by the Office of Postsecondary Education, the following are the seven reporting items:

1. New Jersey Institute of Technology acknowledges that on April 10, 2020, the Certification and Agreement was signed and returned to the 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 of Education 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 December 31, 2020 is \$4,055,485.
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 2398 as of December 31, 2020.
6. The methods used to determine which students and how much students receive from the CARES Act funding include:
 - 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, Summer 2020 or Fall 2020 term as a matriculated student (students in a completely online program, and non-Title-IV eligible students are excluded)
 - Eligible for funding under the Title IV Higher Education Act of 1985

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 19-20 and \$6,345 for 20-21). After all continuing students were considered, the application was opened up to incoming first time students effective in Fall 2020 and Pell-eligible students were given top priority, followed by non-Pell-eligible.

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/1FAIpQLSdqZrcdj76u103nNGNDX42jKa2gYLsRvELK08xCahWFtIEtnw/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/>