



## CARES Act HEERF and Institutional Funds Report #3 – August 14, 2020\*

\*amended June 2, 2021

Cochise College received notice of allocation of HEERF funds for the purpose of providing emergency financial aid grants to students on **April 25, 2020**. As part of the requirements of receiving funds under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, the college is required to provide periodic reporting. The first report is due within 30 days of the notice of allocation. Subsequent updates related to this provision are due every 45 days thereafter.

Reporting requirements include:

1. An acknowledgement 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.

Cochise College submitted the Certification and Agreement form on April 16, 2020, documenting the college's assurance that the college would be using no less than 50% of the CARES Act funding for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The college received a notification that the grant was awarded and funds were available on April 25, 2020.

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.

Cochise College received a total award of \$3,163,235 from the CARES Act. Of this award a minimum of \$1,581,618 shall be allocated to Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students with the remainder used for institutional related expenses associated with the impact from the Coronavirus.

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 August 14, 2020, the date of this report, the college has distributed a total of \$958,400 to 993 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.

Cochise College estimates the total number of students eligible to participate in the Emergency Financial Aid Grants program to be 2,084 students.

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 stated in item #3, the total number of students that have received Emergency Financial Aid Grants is 993 as of today's report.

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.

Cochise College prepared an Administrative Policy 4099 Emergency Financial Aid Grants to document the eligibility requirements. The language for this policy was derived from the Department of Education's guidelines and the FAQs document released April 21, 2020 and was revised on July 7, 2020, when the Department of Education released additional guidance for students enrolled online. The college's policy can be found online at [www.cochise.edu/policies](http://www.cochise.edu/policies).

The procedures used to identify students who may be eligible for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants included:

- 1) Students enrolled on March 13, 2020
  - 2) Student that had completed a Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) or be eligible to complete the FAFSA
  - 3) Students that meet the criteria specified in Section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended
  - 4) Students enrolled exclusively in an online program were initially excluded from eligibility but this factor was removed with the changes on July 7.
  - 5) If students otherwise met requirements, they were encouraged to submit an application for the Emergency Financial Aid Grants
7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

An application form is located on the financial aid page of the college's web site and is linked from multiple locations, including the main page of the college's internal website, message board and the COVID-19 Student Resource page. Notice of the Emergency Financial Aid Grants was sent out through a variety of methods, including emails sent directly to students and placement on the college's portal and web site, social media posts, and the local newspapers.

8. Of the funds designated for institutional use, the college has expended \$572,288 as of June 16, 2020. These funds were used to reimburse tuition, fee, housing, and meal plan refunds, as well as ~~essential worker pay, severance pay,~~ **indirect costs**, technology and facilities expenses associated with the impact of Coronavirus. Additional review of purchases is underway to identify other items that qualify.

The college's next update of this report regarding Emergency Financial Aid Grants for students will be published on or before **September 29, 2020**.