

On December 27, 2020, the President signed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), 2021. This new law gives the U.S. Department of Education approximately \$22.7 billion to distribute to institutions of higher education in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Similar to the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted on March 27, 2020, the CRRSA Act includes funding for grant aid to students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which can be used for any component of the student's costs of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus, such as tuition, food, housing, health care (including mental health care), or child care. Unlike the CARES Act, the CRRSA Act requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need and authorizes grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.

The following information is reported for: **October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021**

- (1) This statement shall serve to acknowledge that our institution signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Certification and Agreement - Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. We further attest that our institution has used, and/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.
- (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 Student is: **\$633,746**
- (3) The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under CRRSAA(a)(1) from October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021: **\$245,400**
- (4) The estimated total number of students at our institution eligible to participate in programs under CRRSAA(a)(1) is eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under CRRSAA(a)(1) of the HEERF between October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021: **409**
- (5) The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under CRRSAA(a)(1) of the HEERF between October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021: **409**
- (6) The following is the method used by our institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much each student has received/will receive under CRRSAA(a)(1) of the HEERF.

The following guidelines were set to determine student eligibility:

- **Students who are Pell eligible are automatically qualified for an award from HEERF**
 - **All other Students are able to apply for the HEERF using a survey tool that was generated by Westcliff University**
 - **Student applications were evaluated by a committee of university leaders**
 - **The distributed amount was the optimal amount when balancing the goal of helping many students that applied with the aim to ensure it can have a meaningful impact knowing that we are working with a finite pool of resources**
- (7) The following instructions/directions/guidance was/will be provided by our institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.



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CARES Act Reporting on Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Westcliff University

- **Students were asked to complete and submit an application by September 2021, to attest if they have endured financial hardship or excessive financial hardship.**