

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting- Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

May 20, 2020

On April 25, 2020, Stark State College (SSC) received funding to provide emergency grants to students for unforeseen expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The funding is from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund (HEERF). SSC must report to the public within 30 days of receipt of the funds how the funds are being used. Please find our 30-day report below.

1. Stark State College signed and returned the Certification and Agreement acknowledging the HEERF Emergency Grant funds to the U. S. Department of Education through grants.gov on April 16, 2020. SSC received notification that the funding was approved on April 25, 2020. SSC is committed to using no less than 50 percent of the funds received to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
2. Stark State College received is \$2,518,150 in emergency grant funds for students.
3. Stark State College has distributed \$470,866 to students as of May 19, 2020.
4. Stark State College estimates the number of students eligible to participate in Title IV programs for Spring Semester 2020 as 4,316 (IPEDS 14th Day Spring Semester Title IV reporting).
5. A total of 1,063 students have received HEERF Emergency Grant funding as of May 19, 2020.
6. Stark State College uses an application process in awarding CARES Act Emergency Grant funds to students available through the student portal, Mystarkstate. Students are able to check a box for the qualifying categories and request the amount of emergency aid needed. Spring Semester individual student awards were \$500 or less. Spring Semester applications were available to students from April 29 through May 10, 2020, the end of the Spring Term.
7. Every currently enrolled student for Spring Semester 2020 as of April 29, 2020 was sent an individual email inviting and instructing them to apply for CARES Act Emergency funding. The campus community was also sent an email notifying them of the Emergency Grant Opportunity available to students. A webpage was created for the CARES Act Emergency Fund and includes information on how to apply, eligibility requirements, and a Frequently Asked Questions and Answers section. A slider with the link to the CARES Act Emergency Funding was visible on the homepage of the Stark State College website during the Spring 2020 application period.