

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

October 7, 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. This information must also be updated no later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30) thereafter. Please find our September 30 Quarterly 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 \$2,518,150 in emergency grant funds for students.
3. Stark State College has distributed \$2,287,656 to students as of September 30, 2020.

Term	Dollars Distributed
Spring 2020	472,366
Summer	398,039
Fall 2020 (through 9-30-2020)	1,417,250
Total	\$2,287,656

4. Stark State College estimates the number of students eligible to participate in Title IV programs is 5,191 for Fall Semester 2020 (4,933 for Spring Semester and 1,863 for Summer Semester based on the number of ISIR records for the term on the 14th Day of the Semester).¹
5. A total of 3,864 students have received HEERF Emergency Grant funding as of September 30, 2020.

Term	Number of Students
Spring 2020	1,066
Summer 2020	901
Fall 2020 (through 9-30-2020)	1897

Total	3,864
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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. Fall Semester individual student awards were \$250 to \$1,000 based on credit load. Fall Semester applications were available on August 31, 2020.

7. Every currently enrolled student for Fall Semester 2020 was sent an individual email inviting and instructing them to apply for CARES Act Emergency funding on 8-31-2020 and 9-10-2020. On August 25, 2020, the campus community was also sent an email notifying them of the Emergency Grant Opportunity available to students. Additionally, the CARES Act Student Emergency Grant funding application process was included in the Stark Stater Student ENews on 9-1-2020, 9-8-2020, 9-15-2020, and 9-22-2020. Stark State College’s Cares Act Emergency Funding webpage and the Frequently Asked Questions were updated for Fall 2020. The webpage and FAQs include 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 from August 31 to September 29, 2020.

The report content is based on updated guidance from the U.S. Department of Education:
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/31/2020-19041/notice-of-public-posting-requirement-of-grant-information-for-higher-education-emergency-relief-fund>

1. For the purposes of this report, institutions may determine the number of eligible students based on the number of students for whom the institution has received an Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) plus the number of students who completed an alternative application form developed by the institution for this purpose.