Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Quarterly Reporting- Round I Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Final Report

April 9, 2021

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 March 31, 2021 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 \$2,518,150 to students as of March 31, 2021 from the emergency grants fund for students' allocation.

| Term | Dollars Distributed |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Spring 2020 | 471,467 |
| Summer 2020 | 398,039 |
| Fall 2020 | 1,537,000 |
| Spring 2021 (through 3-31-2021) | 111,644 |
| Total | \$2,518,150 |

4. Stark State College estimates the number of students eligible to participate in Title IV programs is 4,620 for Spring 2021 (4,933 for Spring Semester 2020, 1,863 for Summer Semester 2020, and 5,191 for Fall Semester 2020) based on the number of ISIR records for the term on the 14th Day of the Semester.¹

5. A total of 4,345 students have received HEERF Emergency Grant funding as of March 31, 2021 from the emergency grant funds for students' allocation.

| Term | Number of Students |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2020 | 1,064 |
| Summer 2020 | 901 |
| Fall 2020 | 2,062 |
| Spring 2021 (through 3-31-2021) | 318 |
| Total | 4,345 |

- 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 2021 individual student awards were \$300 to \$500 based on credit load. Spring Semester 2021 applications were available on January 19, 2021 and closed on January 22, 2021.
- 7. Every currently enrolled student for Spring Semester 2021 was sent an individual email inviting and instructing them to apply for CARES Act Emergency funding on December 18, 2020, January 4, 2021, and January 19, 2021. On December 29, 2020, the campus community was also sent an email notifying them of the Emergency Grant Opportunity available to students. Stark State College's Cares Act Emergency Funding webpage and the Frequently Asked Questions were updated for Spring 2021. 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 for Spring 2021 was visible on the homepage of the Stark State College website from December 18, 2020 to January 22, 2021.

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.