

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act – Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19. As a result of the CARES Act, Elizabethtown College received \$675,572 in emergency financial aid student grant funds through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

The emergency financial aid student grant funds will be disbursed to Title IV eligible students to assist with expenses related to disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19. Such expenses include food, housing, course materials, childcare, technology, and transportation. Students demonstrating Title IV eligibility must have a 2019-2020 FAFSA on file and be currently enrolled.

Once the College receives the emergency financial aid student grant funds, Pell grant recipients will receive \$700 and non-Pell grant recipients will receive \$400. Additional funding will be provided to students that qualify on a case-by-case basis, based on remaining funding available.

Eligible students will receive emergency grant eligibility notification to their Elizabethtown email address. A check from the College's Business Office will be mailed to the student's home address. Students enrolled exclusively online, not due to COVID-19 disruption, do not qualify for the emergency financial aid student grant.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

1. What does it mean to be Title IV eligible?

- Must be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen.
- Must be enrolled as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program.
- Must have a valid Social Security Number.
- Must be making satisfactory academic progress.
- Must be registered for Selective Service if male.
- Must have a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent or completion of high school in an approved homeschool setting.
- Must not be in default on a federal student loan.
- Must not owe money on a federal grant.
- Who is eligible for emergency financial aid student grant funds through HEERF funding?
- Currently enrolled Title IV eligible students who completed the 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet CARES Act eligibility requirements are eligible. Students enrolled exclusively online, not due to COVID-19 disruption, do not qualify for the emergency financial aid student grant.

2. When will I receive the emergency financial aid student grant funds?

Once the College receives the emergency financial aid student grant funds from the Department of Education, students will be notified through their E-town email address and a check will be mailed to their home address.

3. How do I request additional funds or what if I do not qualify?

For students experiencing financial hardships due to COVID-19, and do not qualify for the emergency financial aid student grant or for current students that may need more funding than awarded, please submit an appeal to <u>finaid@etown.edu</u>. We will work with you to see if any additional assistance may be provided.

4. Is the emergency financial aid student grant taxable?

No, per the Internal Revenue Service, the emergency financial aid student grant is not taxable income.

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