

## **45-Day Fund Report II to the Department of Education**

### **HEERF Student Emergency Financial Aid Grants College of the Atlantic: Award P425E202183**

August 8, 2020

#### **CERTIFICATION AND AGREEMENT**

College of the Atlantic (COA) signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement. COA 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.

#### **TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED**

COA received \$151,693 from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

#### **TOTAL AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED TO STUDENTS**

COA distributed \$82,450 of Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. COA anticipates distributing the balance of funds in fall 2020. Please see the 'Methods' section below for details.

#### **NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**

An estimated 206 COA students are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

#### **TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED GRANTS**

On May 20, 2020, COA distributed Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 142 students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Update: As of June 30, 2020 (most recent bank statement), 16 checks were uncashed. Once COA receives the July bank statement, the Director of Financial Aid will reach out to students who did not cash their checks. COA will then determine how to deal with uncashed checks.

#### **METHODS TO DETERMINE GRANT RECIPIENTS AND AMOUNTS**

COA convened a committee to determine which students will receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The committee included the Controller, Dean of Admission, Director of Financial Aid, and Director of Academic Grants. The committee developed a formula to distribute funding based on need and enrollment. COA used the following criteria to determine the grant disbursement plan, recipients, and amounts:

#### Disbursement

COA distributed \$82,450 in emergency grants to students whose spring term 2020 education was disrupted by the pandemic. COA will reserve \$69,243 to be distributed to students in the fall, and possibly later, in recognition that the impacts of the pandemic will continue and students will continue to experience economic impacts during the 2020-21 academic year. COA will evaluate the spring disbursement and report the plan to disburse the remaining funds in subsequent reports to the Department.

#### Eligible students

- Students are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and
- For the spring distribution, students are enrolled in spring term at least 1/2 time.

### Grant amounts

COA calculated grant amounts based on each eligible student's Institutional Expected Family Contribution (IEFC).

### INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

COA emailed student grant recipients to advise them that they would be receiving a check or electronic payment. COA mailed a letter to each student receiving an Emergency Financial Aid Grant. The letter describes the grant program and includes this text to inform students about the intended use of the grants: "According to the Department of Education, these funds are to be disbursed directly to students and must be used to cover expenses 'related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).'"