

Fund Report to the Department of Education

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

Report date: October 7, 2020

Report period: August 8, 2020 to September 30, 2020

Note on reporting period: Future reports will be completed at the end of each calendar quarter per the updated September 2020 reporting requirements from the Department of Education. This report reflects only a partial quarter, because it fell during the transition from reporting every 45-days to every calendar quarter.

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 September 30, 2020, four checks totaling \$1,675 remained uncashed from the May 20, 2020 disbursement. The Director of Financial Aid will reach out to students who did not cash their checks. COA will then determine how to handle 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. As of this report, no additional funds have been disbursed to students. COA plans to distribute the remaining \$69,243 to students no later than October 31, 2020.

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 2020 distribution, students were required to be enrolled for the spring term at least ½ time. For the upcoming fall 2020 distribution, students must be enrolled for the fall term at least ½ 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).'"