

Fund Report to the Department of Education

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

Report date: January 8, 2021

Report period: October 1, 2020 to December 31, 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 \$151,693 of Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act in calendar year 2020.

NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

An estimated 206 COA students were eligible for the spring term and an estimated 234 students were eligible for the fall term 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. On October 27, 2020 and December 3, 2020, COA distributed the remainder of the Emergency Financial Aid Grant funds to 139 students.

The Director of Financial Aid will reach out to any students who have not cashed their checks by December 31st. 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. The remaining \$69,243 was distributed to students on October 27, 2020 and December 3, 2020 to assist students whose fall term 2020 education was disrupted by the pandemic.

Eligible students

- Students are eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and
- For both the spring 2020 and fall 2020 distributions, students were required to be enrolled for those respective terms 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).'"