

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

01/10/2021

Porter and Chester Institute of Hamden (OPE ID: 007305) received education stabilization funds under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), Public Law No: 116-136. This Fund Report applies to the student portion received under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund that is designated exclusively for emergency financial aid grants to students.

The institution appreciates that Congress and the President have made these critical funds available for eligible students who have expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. We take receipt of these federal funds seriously and are distributing them in accordance with the CARES Act and implementing guidance.

The institution is making the below information available for transparency purposes and in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education’s (“Department”) Electronic Announcement of May 6, 2020.¹ For questions or concerns regarding this Fund Report, please contact Janine Provost, Corporate Director of Educational Funding, jprovost@porterchester.com.

1. The institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. The institution has used, or 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.
2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$297,578.
3. The total amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of this Fund Report is \$297,000.00 from the student portion with an additional \$75,000 from the institutional portion.
4. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of the date of this Fund Report is 372.
5. The total number of students who have received an emergency financial aid grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of this Fund Report is 372.
6. The methods used by the institution to determine which students receive emergency financial aid grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act are provided at **Attachment A**.
7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants are provided at **Attachment B**.

¹ See: <https://ifap.ed.gov/electronic-announcements/050620HigherEdEmergencyReliefFundRptg>

Attachment A

1. The school determined the number of currently enrolled students (active and leave of absence) who met the TIV eligibility requirements in section 484 of the Higher Education Act as evidenced by review of the student's ISIR and institutional records.
2. The school reviewed the pool of eligible students and determined there was significant homogeneity in cost of attendance and socio-economic status.
3. Recognizing this, and the fact that the vast majority of students had expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to corona virus, the school determined to award a flat grant to all eligible students.
4. The student portion of the CARES Act funding was insufficient to allow a grant to all eligible students, so funds from the institutional portion were used to supplement the student portion, as needed.
5. If additional students establish eligibility after the first disbursement date, or if some students demonstrate additional corona virus related expenses beyond the flat grant amount, funds from the institutional portion of the grant will be used to award these students.

Attachment B

Dear (student name>>,

In the "CARES Act", Congress authorized the U.S. Department of Education to provide funds to schools to distribute as emergency grants directly to students (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds). These funds are for students' extra expenses related to the disruption of school operations due to coronavirus (such as technology and internet access for on-line learning, additional on-line course materials, health care, child-care, increased food costs, higher utility bills, etc.)

These funds are only available to students eligible for federal Title IV loans and grants. If you are receiving federal student aid now, this confirms your Title IV eligibility and you should expect to receive a \$1,000 check shortly as your portion of these CARES Act funds from the U.S. government.

Please log in to the Student Portal (<https://portal.porterchester.edu/>) to check the address that is on file for you and update it, if needed, in order for this check to reach you promptly.

If you are not currently receiving federal aid, but you feel you might meet the eligibility requirements for federal Title IV aid, you may file a 2020-2021 FAFSA for the US Department of education to confirm your eligibility for these funds. You do not need to borrow any federal student loans in order to receive your CARES Act funding. You simply have to file the FAFSA to document that you meet the TIV eligibility requirements (citizen or eligible non-citizen, valid Social Security number, not in default on a federal loan, registered with Selective Service, if applicable, enrolled in a Title IV eligible program, etc.). If you choose to file a FAFSA, please do so before June 30, 2020 to ensure it will be processed in time for you to establish eligibility for the CARES Act funds.

Please contact the Educational Funding staff at your campus if you have any questions.

(Date)

Dear Student,

As we communicated earlier via email, through the "CARES Act", Congress authorized the U.S. Department of Education to provide funds to schools to distribute as emergency grants directly to students (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds). These funds are for students' extra expenses related to the disruption of school operations due to coronavirus. These funds are only available to students who meet the eligibility requirements to receive federal Title IV loans or grants.

By accepting this CARES Act check you certify that:

- you meet the TIV eligibility requirements (citizen or eligible non-citizen, valid Social Security number, not in default on a federal loan, registered with Selective Service, if applicable, enrolled in a Title IV eligible program, making Satisfactory Academic Progress, etc.)
- that you had expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the Coronavirus (technology devices and internet access for on-line learning, additional on-line course materials, health care, child-care, increased food costs, higher utility bills, etc.) in the amount of at least \$1,000.

Please contact the Educational Funding staff at your campus if you have any questions.

Porter and Chester Institute of Hamden