

### **Disclosure**

## CARES Act: Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Emergency Financial Aid Grants for Students

## **Quarter Report – October 5, 2020**

In accordance with the Announcement posted by the US Department of Education on May 6, 2020 (<a href="https://ifap.ed.gov/electronic-announcements/050620HigherEdEmergencyReliefFundRptg">https://ifap.ed.gov/electronic-announcements/050620HigherEdEmergencyReliefFundRptg</a>), Lord Fairfax Community College herein discloses the following required information pertaining to its use of HEERF funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

 An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that 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.

Lord Fairfax Community College signed and returned its Certification and Agreement to the U.S. Department of Education on May 7, 2020. This Certification and Agreement provided assurance that the college intends to use 50% of the funds received under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid to Students. The College received its Grant Award Notification from the Department on May 14, 2020.

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.

Lord Fairfax Community College received a total of \$1,159,802 from the Department pursuant to its Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

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 submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of June 7, 2020 (30 days from the date of the institution's Certification and Agreement to the Department) is \$1,158,050.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of July 21, 2020 (forty-five (45) days from the date of the institutions Certification and Agreement to the Department remains at \$1,158,050.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of September 3, 2020 (One Hundred and Twenty (120) days from the date of the institutions Certification and Agreement to the Department remains at \$1,158,050.

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 to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

The estimated total number of students at Lord Fairfax Community College 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 remains unchanged at 1,010 students.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of June 7, 2020 is 1,007 students.

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of July 21, 2020 remains unchanged at 1,007 students.

6. The method(s) 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.

Students must have met the following criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System:

- 1. Student meets all Title IV eligibility criteria and is enrolled in an eligible degree or certificate program as of Spring 2020.
- 2. Student was actively enrolled for the Spring 2020 semester as of March 13, 2020, the date of the National Emergency Declaration.
- 3. Student must be enrolled half-time or greater, which means enrolled in at least six financial-aid eligible credits that were not exclusively online
- 4. Student must be enrolled in an on-campus program and not taking all classes online.
- 5. Student's FAFSA information must be below institution specified EFC ceiling.

Based on the criteria above, Lord Fairfax Community College determined that there were 1,818 students at LFCC who met Criteria #1 – #4; however, 1,007 students met all 5 criteria and demonstrated the greatest financial need with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of less than \$12,000. Therefore, 1,007 students at LFCC received an emergency grant in the amount of \$1,150.

The LFCC Office of Financial Aid used the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine student eligibility. Students who believe they may be eligible to file a FAFSA but have not yet filed one for 2019-20, were directed to file your application at <a href="https://www.studentaid.gov">www.studentaid.gov</a> via the Lord Fairfax Community College website.

# 7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

Instructions, directions, and guidance concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants were provided to students by means of the LFCC Cares Act web page, a letter sent by email to all eligible students. Students that received the award received the following email transmission:

### Greetings:

We are notifying you of a pending grant in the amount of \$1,150, due to CARES Relief funds received by Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19. One section of the CARES Act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund and sent money to schools to use for emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic.

The LFCC applied for funding from the federal CARES Act and once we receive that funding from the U.S. Department of Education, we will be able to rapidly start distributing grants to the students based on their financial need. We anticipate the grants will be disbursed during the week of June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need to update your refund preference, please do so immediately athttps://lfcc.afford.com/.

These funds are meant to help students pay expenses for technology, health care, childcare, course materials, rent, food, moving, or other expenses incurred this semester. If you have yet to experience financial stress due to COVID-19, these funds can help with unanticipated expenses or income loss that may occur throughout the semester and into future semesters.

**Please Note:** There are potential tax implications for receiving these funds; Each financial award you receive from the federal government and other sources will have separate and unique tax consequences for your federal tax return. Visit the <a href="https://www.irs.gov/">https://www.irs.gov/</a> for assistance.

For additional information, please go to www.lfcc.edu/CARESrelief.

### Office of Financial Aid

In other communications to students, they were informed that the CARES Act/HEERF Student Emergency Grant was aid in the form of direct payments to eligible students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to Coronavirus, including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, which may have included food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care.

Students were advised that each financial award they received from the federal government and other sources would have separate and unique tax consequences for their federal tax return. They were directed to visit <a href="https://www.irs.gov/IRS">https://www.irs.gov/IRS</a> for assistance.

For questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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