

45-day Fund Report HEERF Student Funds September 4, 2020

As a recipient of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, WAU must comply with Section 18004(e) of the Act and publish on our website an initial report describing the use of the student portion of the funds. Included in the report are the amount WAU received, the number of grants distributed to students, and our methodology for distributing the funds. The 30-day Fund Report was made available on June 11, 2020, and updates to the report will be made every 45 days following the initial publication.

In response to the crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the CARES Act was passed by Congress and signed into law on March 27, 2020. One aspect of the Act was the creation of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) provided to institutions for emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 outbreak. WAU received a total allocation of \$805,558. Of the \$805,558, 50 percent (\$402,779) of the funds received will be used to provide emergency financial aid cash grants to eligible students with allowable expenses. WAU may use up to 50% of the remaining HEERF funds for institutional costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus. Visit [ED.GOV](https://ed.gov) to review Washington Adventist University's grant allocation received under the CARES Act.

1. WAU signed and submitted to the Department of Education (ED) through Grants.gov the Certification and Agreement affirming our commitment to using 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. WAU has received the full HEERF allocation of \$805,558. On May 12, 2020, WAU received \$402,779 to be used exclusively to provide emergency financial aid cash grants to eligible students. The allocation of the institutional portion (\$402,779) was received on June 9, 2020.
3. As of this report's date, WAU has distributed \$192,682.16 in cash grants to eligible students.

WAU has estimated that 756 students are eligible to participate in federal financial aid programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are therefore qualified to receive a HEERF Grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The number of students who completed an application developed by WAU was 242. 165 students who resided in a residence hall during the spring 2020 semester were automatically eligible to be awarded a HEERF Grant due to relocation expenses stemming from the requirement to move out of the residence halls.

4. As of this report's date, 345 eligible students have received a HEERF Grant.
5. WAU's methodology to determine which students received a HEERF Grant and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act was developed following the ED's guidelines. To be eligible for a HEERF Grant, students must meet requirements established by ED, including but not limited to:
 - Enrollment impacted by the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19
 - Qualified to complete the FAFSA form and receive federal aid
 - Current enrollment or acceptance status
 - U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or another eligible non-citizen status
 - Enrollment in a face-to-face or hybrid program
 - Expenses related to the disruption of campus operations

Allowable expenses include:

- Food
- Housing
- Utilities
- course materials
- technology
- health care
- child care

An application is required for consideration for a HEERF Grant and was emailed to students on June 4, 2020. To access the application, tap here: [WAU HEERF GRANT APPLICATION](#). The initial application due date was June 12, 2020; however, the form will remain open until all the funds are exhausted. New applications will be reviewed weekly.

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Awarding is done through Student Financial Services, and Student Accounts disburses the funds onto the student's WAU account. However, the HEERF Grant is a pass-through and will not be used to offset any charges or balances on a student's account. The Accounting office issues the cash payment in the form of a check to the student.

For the 756 eligible undergraduate and graduate students, WAU calculated a fixed monetary grant per student based on enrollment status. The schedule for the distribution of funds is listed below:

Eligible full-time students	\$570.91
Eligible part-time students	\$285.46

6. Timeline of communications to students:

- On April 29, 2020, an initial email was sent to students introducing the HEERF Grant and announcing WAU's commitment to providing cash grants to eligible students facing financial hardship and disruptions due to the coronavirus outbreak.
- On June 4, 2020, the HEERF Grant application was emailed to students.
- Students were reminded to apply for grant through email and verbal communications.

Additionally, WAU continues to send follow-up emails and phone calls to students who do not respond by applying.

For additional information about the CARES Act HEERF, please visit ED's webpage at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/caresact.html>.

Please contact Student Financial Services at finaid@wau.edu or 301.891.4005 if you have a question or require additional information.