

## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Reporting:

### Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

#### University of Dubuque 45-Day Fund Report-UPDATE III

October 10, 2020

#### Overview:

Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act” or the “Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020), directs institutions receiving funds under Section 18004 of the Act to submit (in a time and manner required by the Secretary) a report to the Secretary describing the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”).

On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education posted their reporting requirements for HEERF participating institutions.

Each HEERF participating institution is responsible for providing this information in report format (the “30-day Fund Report”). In addition, these participating institutions are required to post the information listed below on the institution’s primary website. Accordingly, the following information will be easily accessible to the public and made available 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and updated every 45 days thereafter.

The University of Dubuque (UD) hereby addresses questions for the “45-day Fund Report”:

1. 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.

***UD Response:*** *University of Dubuque completed and submitted the Funding Certification Agreement on Monday, April 13, 2020. A team was established in order to deliver 50% of the funding to students impacted by the COVID - 19 pandemic. University of Dubuque received formal notice of funding approval on April 22, 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.

***UD Response:*** *University of Dubuque received \$1,318,697 in funding to be distributed among its student applicants.*

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).

**UD Response:** *No funding has been distributed to students at the initial 30-day reporting period. **UPDATE I:** During the next 45-day period, UD awarded and disbursed \$997,417.36 to eligible students. **UPDATE II:** No additional funding has been distributed during this 45-day period. **UPDATE III:** During this 45-day period the remaining \$321,279.64 has been disbursed to eligible students.*

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.

**UD Response:** *The estimated total number of students at the University of Dubuque with eligibility as defined under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 is approximately 1,573 students based on March 6, 2020 enrollment.*

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.

**UD Response:** *At this time, no students have been awarded an emergency Financial Aid Grant from the CARES Act. **UPDATE I:** During the next 45-day period UD awarded and disbursed HEERF funding to a total of 692 students. The maximum award was \$4,500 with the average being \$1,441. **UPDATE II:** No additional students have been funded during this 45-day period. **UPDATE III:** Those who submitted after the deadline for the first round were reviewed and had a maximum award of \$4,500. During this 45-day period UD awarded and disbursed the remaining funds to a total of 735 students, this includes all student who submitted an application.*

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.

**UD Response:** *We are using an application process for students to apply for the funding. Applications were mailed to all eligible students on May 11, 2020. Second notices will be sent to students that have not replied by May 22, 2020. The University will distribute \$1,318,697. Our goal is to begin awarding the funding as soon as possible after the close of the application period. **UPDATE 1:** After reviewing all of the applications submitted, there were remaining funds to be awarded. As applications are still being received the committee is reviewing them on a first come, first serve basis. It is anticipated that these late applications will exhaust the remaining funds.*

**UPDATE II:** Late applications are still being accepted and reviewed, the University anticipates awarding funds to these applicants by mid-September. **UPDATE III:** The committee reviewed all late applications and made distributions. The committee then determined to evenly distribute the funds remaining to all students who submitted an application. The funds have now been exhausted.

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

**UD Response:** The application requested student to identify areas of disruption such as: food/housing, course material, technology, health care, child, or other applicable items and reflect the amount related to each. **UPDATE 1:** The students received an application in the mail along with two emails to encourage them to apply for funding. A dedicated team member monitored all the applications and responded timely to student and parent questions. **UPDATE II:** A dedicated team member continues to monitor and respond to all inquiries. **UPDATE III:** The designated team member will respond should we have any further inquiries.