

CARES Public Disclosure

Criteria required for public disclosure:

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% of the funds received under section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Our acknowledgement document follows at the end of this public disclosure as Attachment A.
2. The total amount of funds Eastern Connecticut State University will receive or has received from the Department to the institution Certification and Agreement (for) Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$4,433,725 and \$2,216,863 of this amount represent the no less than 50% portion to provide Emergency Financial Aid to our students.
3. As of June 1, 2020, we have distributed \$1,662,432 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to our students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
4. The estimated total number of students who have successfully qualified, or are considered potentially 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 1800(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 3,813 students.
5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 1804(a)(1) of the CARES Act is 3,054 students.
6. The institution set aside a minor portion of the student amount for a Student Emergency Grant Program. The distribution of the major funding was calculated using the potential total distribution of credit hours in the spring semester of all students who successfully qualified, or are considered potentially eligible, to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The value awarded to full-time undergraduate non-Pell student was \$476.28 and \$666.84 for a Pell student. The value awarded for a full-time graduate student was \$357.21. Undergraduate students are considered full-time when enrolled in 12 or more credits and graduated students are considered full-time when enrolled in 9 or more credits. Part-time non-Pell undergraduate students were awarded at a rate of \$39.69 per credit and \$55.57 for Pell eligible students. Part-time graduate students were awarded at \$39.69 per credit hour. For example, a part-time non-Pell eligible student taking 3 credits would receive \$119.07 ($3 * \$39.69 = \119.07).
7. Guidance regarding the Emergency Financial Aid Grant was provided to students on our Eastern Connecticut State University web page and by email to our student population as follows,

Federal Emergency Funds

Today I am sharing the following information with Eastern students and their parents, as well other members of the University community, regarding federal support being provided to the University through the Coronavirus Assistance, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Funds have been approved by Congress and will be distributed to state governments for various purposes and directly to institutions of higher education for emergency funding.

Eastern will receive \$4,433,725 in emergency funding through the CARES Act. Of that amount, \$2.2 million will provide partial relief to the University to offset lost revenues and additional expenses incurred due to COVID-19. In addition to more than \$6 million in housing and meal refunds disbursed to students, the University has incurred other expenses related to COVID-19 and continues to maintain its operations remotely, paying employees and covering all other normal operating expenses.

The other half of the emergency funds — \$2,216,863 — will be used to provide direct financial relief to students. Eastern is working with the other three state universities and the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities System Office to finalize the distribution model, including the amount students will receive and eligibility requirements. Once the model is finalized, disbursements will be made using the eRefund system and for students who are not registered for e-Refund individual checks will be mailed to their home address.

If you have not registered for eRefund, please register TODAY!

We expect payments made by eRefund will get you your money approximately one week earlier than anyone receiving a check in the mail.

There is no fee to set up an eRefund and this is the quickest way to get your money.

1. Go to [eWeb](#)
2. Go to your Student Account
3. Click "view account, make deposits/payments and set up payment plan"
4. Select Electronic Refunds in the top menu
5. Follow the prompts

While some details remain to be finalized, I can tell you that eligible students will receive funds based on credit hours, amounts will vary based on the students full-time or part-time status. Pell students will receive additional funds based on guidance provided by the Federal Government. In total, we plan to distribute \$2 million directly to students, with an additional \$200,000 — 10 percent — available to support emergency requests. Currently we are developing the process to request consideration of support from the \$200,000 emergency fund. We will make more information available to you as details are finalized.

Jim Howarth

Vice President for Finance and Administration

**CARES ACT and Eastern Connecticut State University
Update May 1, 2020**

New federal requirements have been released that limit student eligibility for distribution of CARES Emergency Funding.

To be eligible for an automatic payment under the CARES Act, students must meet the following criteria:

- been enrolled in classes as of March 27, 2020;
- filed a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) for the 2019/2020 financial aid year;
- been determined to be Title IV eligible as outlined in the FAFSA; and
- completed all Office of Financial Aid verification requirements.

We strongly encourage students who have not filed a 2019-20 FAFSA to do so by **June 30, 2020** at www.fafsa.ed.gov, so that your eligibility for CARES funding can be determined. Upon completing the FAFSA, please be sure to use the Eastern school code (**001425**) so that it will be routed to us for processing.

We expect to receive the funds as early as next week and will begin to disburse the automatic payments at that time. **Students do not apply for payments; the University will issue payments to eligible students.** Eligible students will receive automatic payments based on credit hours; amounts will vary based on the students full-time or part-time status. Pell students will receive additional funds based on guidance provided by the Federal Government.

Disbursements of the automatic payments will be made using the eRefund system and for students who are not registered for e-Refund individual checks will be mailed to their home address.

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**Recipient's Funding Certification and Agreement
Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
Economic Security (CARES) Act**

Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), authorizes the Secretary of Education ("Secretary") to allocate formula grant funds in the amount of \$ 4,433,725 to Eastern Connecticut State University ("Recipient").

Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires Recipient to use no less than fifty percent of the funds received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for 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). This Certification and Agreement solely concerns the emergency financial aid grants to students under Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act.

To address the pressing financial need of students due to the disruption of campus operations from coronavirus, and pursuant to the authority duly delegated to the Secretary under the CARES Act and associated with the coronavirus emergency, as stated in Proclamation 9994 of March 13, 2020, "Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak," *Federal Register* Vol. 85, No. 53 at 15337-38, the Secretary and Recipient agree as follows:

1. The Secretary will provide Recipient fifty (50) percent of its formula grant funds (the "advanced funds") for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing emergency financial aid grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.
2. Recipient agrees to promptly make available emergency financial aid grants from the advanced funds directly to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses. Recipient shall not use the advanced funds to reimburse itself for any costs or expenses, including but not limited to any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus and/or any refunds or other benefits that Recipient previously issued to students.
3. Recipient retains discretion to determine the amount of each individual emergency financial aid grant consistent with all applicable laws including non-discrimination laws. Recipient acknowledges that the Secretary recommends the maximum Federal Pell Grant for the applicable award year as an appropriate maximum amount for a student's emergency financial aid grant in most cases, and the Recipient should be mindful of each student's particular socioeconomic circumstances in the staging and administration of these grants. The Secretary strongly encourages Recipient's financial aid administrator to exercise the use of professional judgment available under Section 479A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), 20 U.S.C § 1087tt, to make adjustments on a case-by-case basis to exclude individual emergency financial aid grants from the calculation of a student's expected family contribution. The Secretary does not consider these individual emergency financial aid grants to constitute Federal financial aid under Title IV of the HEA.

4. In consideration for the advanced funds and as conditions for their receipt, Recipient warrants, acknowledges, and agrees that:

(a) The advanced funds shall not be used for any purpose other than the direct payment of grants to students for their expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care;

(b) Recipient holds those funds in trust for students and acts in the nature of a fiduciary with respect thereto;

(c) Recipient shall promptly comply with Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act and (i) report to the Secretary thirty (30) days from the date of this Certification and Agreement and every forty-five (45) days thereafter in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333 through 2 CFR 200.337, or in such other additional form as the Secretary may specify, how grants were distributed to students, the amount of each grant awarded to each student, how the amount of each grant was calculated, and any instructions or directions given to students about the grants; and (ii) document that Recipient has continued to pay all of its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures to the greatest extent practicable, explaining in detail all specific actions and decisions related thereto, in compliance with Section 18006 of the CARES Act;

(d) Recipient shall comply with all requirements in Attachment A to this Certification and Agreement;

(e) Recipient shall promptly and to the greatest extent practicable distribute all the advanced funds in the form of emergency financial aid grants to students by one year from the date of this Certification and Agreement, and document its efforts to do so as part of the report specified in subsection (c) above;

(f) Recipient shall cooperate with any examination of records with respect to the advanced funds by making records and authorized individuals available when requested, whether by (i) the U.S. Department of Education and/or its Inspector General; or (ii) any other federal agency, commission, or department in the lawful exercise of its jurisdiction and authority; and

(g) failure to comply with this Certification and Agreement, its terms and conditions, and/or all relevant provisions and requirements of the CARES Act or any other applicable law may result in Recipient's liability under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.*; OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; 18 USC § 1001, as appropriate; and all of the laws and regulations referenced in Attachment A, which is incorporated by reference hereto.

RECIPIENT or Authorized Representative of Recipient

OPEID Number

DATE



00142500

04/23/2020

Attachment A to Recipient's CARES Funding Certification and Agreement

The Recipient assures and certifies the following:

- Recipient will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
- With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; Recipient will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," when required (34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix B); and Recipient will require the full certification, as set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix A, in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers.
- Recipient will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1801-0005. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to be 2,853 total burden hours. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: Hilary Malawer, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW. Washington, D.C. 20202.