

Update 9 Activity at 3-31-21 Revised July 16, 2021 to include HEERF II

HEERF I (CARES) and HEERF II (CRRSAA) Public Disclosure

All Funds Under HEERF I and II Have Been Disbursed to Students

Criteria required for public disclosure:

1. Eastern Connecticut State University 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 HEERF I (CARES Act) to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Additional supplement student funds received under HEERF II (CRRSAA) were distributed to students as required.
2. The initial amount of funds Eastern Connecticut State University received for Financial Aid Grants to Students under HEERF I (CARES) was \$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. In January 2021 the university was provided a supplement under HEERF II (CRRSAA) of an additional \$4,843,490 in institutional funds and \$2,216,863 in additional student funds as a revision to the original grant. In total there have been \$7,060,352 institutional funds and \$4,433,726 in student funds awarded in HEERF I (CARES) and , II (CRRSAA).
3. As of March 31, 2021, we have distributed \$2,216,863 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to our students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the HEERF I (CARES) and \$2,216,823 under HEERF II (CRRASS) for a total of \$4,433,726. All HEERF I (CARES) and HEERF II (CRRSAA) student funds have been disbursed.
4. The estimated total number of students who have successfully qualified, or were originally 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 HEERF I (CARES) was 3,813 students and under HEERF II (CRRSAA) 3,429.
5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 1804(a)(1) HEERF I (CARES) was 3,146 students and under HEERF II (CRRSSA) was 3,411.
6. The institution set aside a minor portion of the HEERF I (CARES) student amount for a Student Emergency Grant Program. As of March 31, 2021, the Student Emergency Grant Program has distributed \$221,700 to 821 students. 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 initial \$1,704,654 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).

Once all eligible 3,146 students were identified, the remaining \$290,262 was awarded in December 2020, full-time undergraduate non-Pell student received \$81.12 and \$113.55 for a Pell student. The value awarded for a full-time graduate student was \$60.84. Part -time non-Pell undergraduate students were awarded at a rate of \$6.76 per credit and \$9.46 for Pell eligible students. Part-time graduate students were awarded at \$6.76 per credit hour. In March of 2021 any remaining CARES funds were distributed to students exhausting the \$2,216,863 grant.

HEERF II (CRRSAA) funds were distributed in March 2021 in the same manner as HEERF I (CARES) with the addition of online only students and students who qualified by attestation. Full-time undergraduate non-Pell student received \$599.04 and \$838.68 for a Pell student. The value awarded for a full-time graduate student was \$449.28. Part -time non-Pell undergraduate students were awarded at a rate of \$49.92 per credit and \$69.89 for Pell eligible students. Part-time graduate students were awarded at \$49.92 per credit hour.

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,

HEERF I (CARES)

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 refund 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.

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

We expect refunds made by eRefund will get you your money approximately one week earlier than anyone receiving a refund 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**

COVID-19 Financial Relief for Current Students

March 12, 2021

Dear Eastern Connecticut State University student:

The University has been awarded \$2,216,863 in additional funds from the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (HEERF II; commonly known as the CARES Act) to support grants for current students.

To qualify for a grant, students must meet several criteria:

1. Matriculate at Eastern Connecticut State University for the spring 2021 semester
2. A U.S. citizen through birth or naturalization
3. A U.S. Permanent Resident with a valid, unexpired U.S. Permanent Resident Card
4. Eligible for federal financial aid as a Noncitizen (see [Eligible Noncitizen](#) for requirements)

If you received a CARES grant payment in December 2020 and are currently enrolled at Eastern for the spring 2021 semester, you do not need to take any additional action. Students who are not currently enrolled, receive waivers, or are taking fewer than three credits will not qualify for this payment.

Students who could qualify for grant funds under item 2, 3 or 4 above will need to complete an attestation form being sent to your Eastern email account from Caresact@easternct.edu. You must complete and submit the form by 1 p.m. on Monday March 22, 2021, to be eligible. Any forms received after March 22 at 1 p.m. will not be eligible for the grant. Questions regarding the distribution of CARES funds should be sent to Caresact@easternct.edu.

If you have not signed up for Eastern's eRefunds system, **we suggest you sign up today** as it is the quickest way for you to receive your money. An eRefunds payment will get to you approximately one week earlier than a check sent by mail.

There is no fee to set up an eRefunds and it is the quickest way to get your money. Use the following process to set up your eRefunds payment.

6. Go to [eWeb](#)
7. Click Student Services
8. Click Student Account
9. Click Refunds Menu Option at the top of page and then follow the prompts

Thank you. Stay safe and have a successful spring semester.

Sincerely,

James Howarth
Vice President for Finance and Administration

Provided Definition

Home Planning and Institutional Research Home Eligible Noncitizen

Eligible Noncitizen

A U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island), U.S. permanent resident (who has an I-151, I-551 or I-551C [Permanent Resident Card]), or an individual who has an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations:

- "Refugee"
- "Asylum Granted"
- "Cuban-Haitian Entrant (Status Pending)"
- "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Victims of human trafficking, T-visa (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) holder
- "Parolee" (You must be paroled into the United States for at least one year and you must be able to provide evidence from the USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and that you intend to become a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.)



Sample Attestation Letter

From: caresact@easternct.edu

Subject: HEERF II (CARES Act) Grant Program - Attestation

Dear Students Name,

You are receiving this email to provide you with opportunity to qualify for HEERF II (CARES Act) grant funds.

Please complete your HEERF II (CARES Act) Grant Program Attestation by [clicking here](#) or copying and pasting the following link into your browser:

<https://www.XXXXXXX>

The attestation must be completed and submitted by 1:00 pm on Monday March 22, 2021 to be considered eligible for the grant funds.

If you have any questions, please email caresact@easternct.edu.

Sincerely,

CARES Act Team