

UPDATED

**Wayne Community College
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Reporting
Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Reporting**

In compliance with requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Wayne Community College (WCC) acknowledges that the College signed and returned to the Department of Education, the College's Certification and Agreement for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the CARES Act. This acknowledgement affirms that the College 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.

The College was funded \$1,871,244 from the Department of Education pursuant to the College's Certification of Agreement for Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Upon receipt of the funds, the College posted this announcement on its webpage:

CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

The Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law to provide financial support to students who were impacted by the interruption of classes due to the emergency pandemic.

- ***What is the CARES Act Emergency Grant?*** *This grant will provide financial assistance to students related to the interruption of campus operations due to the pandemic/emergency for such expenses including food, housing, transportation, course materials, technology, health care and childcare.*

- ***Who is eligible for the CARES Emergency Grant funds?*** *Students who meet the following criteria:*
 - *Enrolled in spring 2020 courses as of March 13, 2020. This is the date WCC suspended campus classes to prepare for online course completion.*
 - *Enrolled in an eligible degree, diploma or certificate program.*
 - *Eligible to receive Federal Title IV financial aid program by (1) completion of 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file, (2) be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, have a valid Social Security number (SSN), (3) registered with Selective Service if male, and (4) have a high school diploma, GED completion or completion of high school in an approved homeschool setting.*

- *Must be meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as required by WCC. For more information about SAP for WCC students, go to www.waynecc.edu/financialaid.*
 - *Must have incurred expenses as a result of the interruption of classes.*
- ***How does WCC plan to disburse CARES Act Emergency Grant funds to students?*** *The College has received specific instructions to provide funding directly to students.. Therefore all eligible students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of \$5576 may receive and amount up to \$750 based on enrollment status as of March 13, 2020 .For students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) greater than \$5576, may receive and amount up to \$500 based on enrollment status as of March 13, 2020.*
 - ***When will the CARES Act Emergency Grant funds be available?*** *WCC is working hard to provide these funds directly to students in a timely manner. Please continue to monitor your WCC Self Service account for up to date Student Account information.*

If you have questions about the CARES Act Emergency funds, please contact the Financial Aid Office directly at wcc-finaid@waynecc.edu.

The methods used by the College to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants, including how much a student would receive under Section 18004 (a)(1) of the CARES Act was determined using information obtained from various departments including Admission and Records and Financial Aid Office to determine:

- Enrollment in spring 2020
- Enrollment and or acceptance for enrollment in an eligible degree or certificate program
- High school diploma or GED certificate
- Satisfactory academic progress as defined by the College
- Student does not owe and overpayment on Title IV grants or loans
- Student is not in default on a Title IV loan
- As part of the financial aid process, student filed a certification that includes a statement of educational purpose and social security number
- Student has a valid social security number
- Student is a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or eligible non-citizen
- Student returned fraudulently obtained Title IV funds, if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest on charges
- Student has not fraudulently received Title IV funds in excess of annual or aggregate limits, enrollment status as of the emergency date
- Student repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently.
- Student registered with Selective Service, if applicable.
- Student does not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale with certain state limitations.

As of the date of this report, the College distributed \$931,275 to students.

The estimated total number of the College's students eligible to participate in the programs under Section 484 in the Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and therefore eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants to student under section 18004 (a)(1) of the CARES Act is 1191.

WCC used a team of staff including the Financial Aid Director, Director of Admission and Records, Director of Counseling Services, Comptroller, and Vice- President of Administrative and Financial Services Chief Financial Officer to identify, strategize and plan for timely disbursement of CARES Act Emergency grant funding.

Students who were determined eligible for the CARES Act Emergency Grant funding received an email stating:

Dear Student,

WCC recognizes the potential impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on you and your family. We understand the importance of your education and wish to make every resource available to you to help you continue your education at the College.

*The Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act was signed into law to provide funds to help students who were impacted by the interruption of classes due to the emergency pandemic. The CARES Emergency Grant provides assistance for expenses including food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. Based on information we have on record, you may be eligible for the CARES Emergency Grant. Based on information obtained by our office and your enrollment in **spring 2020** classes, you may be eligible to receive funding.*

We are working to provide the CARES Act Emergency Grant funding to assist with completion of degree. Your reply to this email is acknowledging that your educational experience has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in areas such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. Please hit reply to wcc-finaid@waynecc.edu. This is for recordkeeping purposes and to ensure timely processing and disbursement of the CARES Emergency Grant to you.

If you have questions, please call us at 919-739-6735 or email wcc-finaid@waynecc.edu. Our goal is to respond to emails and phone inquiries within 24-48 hours.

Sincerely,

WCC Financial Aid Office

WCC allocated Federal student emergency grants to Spring 2020 curriculum students who were enrolled in eligible degree programs prior to the state of emergency, if students had a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file for the academic year, met satisfactory academic progress as defined by the College and other specified criteria. WCC also considered the student's enrollment for spring 2020 and awarding level and amounts were:

Full-time enrollment - \$800
¾ time enrollment - \$600
½ time enrollment - \$400
¼ time enrollment - \$200

Students were advised to check the status of the Emergency Grant through the Self-Service portal on the webpage and:

1. Selecting the My Bison ID link
2. Log into the Okta portal
3. Clicking the appropriate link including Self-Service to review award amount and for anticipated disbursement date.

Checks were prepared and mailed to **1191** students totaling **\$780,600** on June 29, 2020. Remaining funds of approximately **\$155,022** have been awarded to **570** students in phase two of the awarding process to students who continued enrollment in summer 2020 and met the awarding criteria including but not limited to (1)

enrolled in spring 2020 and continued enrollment in summer 2020 in an eligible degree or certificate program, had a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file and met the satisfactory academic progress standards as defined by the school. WCC considered the student's enrollment for summer 2020 and awarding level amounts for:

Full-time enrollment - \$500
¾ time enrollment - \$375
½ time enrollment - \$250
¼ time enrollment - \$150

The College awarded the remaining **\$155,022** to students enrolled in classes for the summer term. To date, WCC has awarded the first half of its allocation and funds have been paid directly to students.

The College's Financial Aid Office will continue to monitor the CARES Act Emergency Grant funding and develop a formal application process for students to apply for the 2020-2021 school year. The Office will provide updates for reporting purposes.

Reported 08/10/2020
Brenda Mercer Burgess
Director, Financial Aid

This report was updated on 09/23/20 by Brenda Mercer Burgess, Director Financial Aid.