

CARES Act General Report

06/16/2020

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the CARES Act (H.R. 748), which provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), found in Section 18004 of the CARES Act, provides funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus”. This report provides details on the emergency funds that Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology (TSCT) received under the HEERF to provide to students.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FUNDING & CERTIFICATION

TSCT signed and submitted the Department of Education Certification and Agreement on April 10th, 2020 and received the funds on May 26th, 2020. Under 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, the total amount allocated to the College is \$1,866,667. No less than 50 percent of these funds, totaling \$933,334 will be distributed to students as per the terms of the certification.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

TSCT will receive a total of \$1,866,667 for the institutional and student shares. Fifty percent of that amount will be distributed to students.

TSCT mailed 1048 checks on June 9, 2020 in the amount of \$933,334.00. Each student received the amount of \$890.59.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

The eligibility requirements for students to receive the funds are as follows:

1. Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program for the Spring 2020 semester through the end of the term.
2. Be eligible for Title IV as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
3. Have a valid FAFSA on file with the college by May 22, 2020.
4. Be making satisfactory academic progress.
(<https://stevenscollege.edu/financialaid/sap/>)
5. Not owe an over-payment on Title IV grants or loans.
6. Not be in default on a Title IV loan.
7. File "as part of the original financial aid application process" a certification that includes
 - a. A statement of educational purpose.
 - b. Student's SSN.

8. Be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible non-citizen.
9. Have returned fraudulently obtained Title IV funds if convicted of or plead guilty or no contest to charges.
10. Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits.
11. Have repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently.
12. Have Selective Service registration verified.
13. Have Social Security Number verified.
14. Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.

There are a total of 1048 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.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The college has provided the following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) guidance on the website for students.

Q: Do I need to complete an application to receive the CARES Act funding through HEERF?

A: No, no formal application is needed. The college has determined that all students have expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the Coronavirus. The students who are eligible based on the eligibility requirements previously mentioned will receive these funds.

Q: Is a FAFSA required to determine eligibility?

A: Yes, a valid FAFSA must be received by the college by May 22, 2020. Please keep in mind it takes approximately 3-5 days for the college to receive a FAFSA once submitted (fafsa.ed.gov).

Q: Am I still able to complete a FAFSA now if I previously waived the requirement?

A: Yes, a FAFSA is still able to be submitted. The college must receive the FAFSA and determine the student is eligible for Title IV funds by May 22, 2020.

Q: How much money will I be receiving?

A: Each student will receive the same amount of funding in the amount of \$890.59.

Q: How will I receive the funds?

A: The funds will be disbursed by a paper check that will be mailed to the home address that the college has on file.

COMMUNICATION TO STUDENTS

A memo was sent with each check to students explaining the funds.

Memo

Re: CARES Act Funds

Thaddeus Stevens College received Federal Funds through the CARES Act to assist students with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to Covid-19.

The College has decided to allocate these funds equally to all eligible Title IV students enrolled for the Spring 2020 Semester.

For any student with an outstanding balance due to Thaddeus Stevens College, receipt of these funds does not negate your balance due to the College. If you are unsure of your balance, please feel free to e-mail Accounts Receivable at mlhohrath@stevenscollege.edu

Thank you,

Betty Tompos

Betty Tompos
Interim President