

SOUTH TEXAS TRAINING CENTER

CARES ACT REPORTING ON EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID GRANTS TO STUDENTS

On March 27, 2020, the Federal government enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Pub L. No. 116-136, providing funds to institutions from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to make 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, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. The law requires institutions to report certain information related to the use of these funds. The following information is reported for the period: May 5, 2020 - July 5, 2020

- I. This statement shall serve to acknowledge that our institution signed and returned to the US Department of Education the *Certification and Agreement - Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students*. We further attest that our institution has used, and/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.
- II. The total amount of funds that the institution has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Student is \$125,000.
- III. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of June 5, 2020, is \$ 80,075.00
- IV. The estimated total number of students at our 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 is 250.
- V. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to date is 167.
- VI. The following is the method used by our institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much each student will receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Based on Federal guidelines dual credit students who enrolled exclusively on an online program on March 13, 2020 are not eligible. Further federal guidelines clarified international students, DREAMers and DACA recipients are not eligible for CARES Act emergency grants.

All students must fill out an application to be considered. Students must submit an application online through a link emailed to students.

Criteria to participate include but are not limited to the following:

- US Citizenship or eligible non-citizen
- Valid Social Security
- Students must have filled out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Registration for selective service (if the student is male)
- High School diploma/GED or completion in an approved home school setting
- Students must be enrolled between the dates of March 13,2020 through June 1, 2020.00
- Students must be enrolled in the following programs: Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, and Medical Office Billing & Coding Specialist.

Students on Leave of Absence will be considered.

Students EFC will be considered as well as expense listed on the application. Each application will be reviewed, and amounts will be based on student needs.

VII. The follow instructions/directions/guidance was provided by our institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

- All students must fill out an application to be considered for funds. Application is available via our website at southtexasraining.com/cares or via the link provided in the students school email account. Submission will be electronic
- Deadline for application submission is May 22, 2020 at 11:59PM
- Student must fill out the application in its entirety leaving out only expense categories that do no pertain to the student.
- Student must meet the criteria outlined above to be eligible.
- Expense categories should include expenses incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and relate to a transition from traditional learning to online learning.
- Questions should be directed to caresact@southtexasraining.com

Process to Be followed at Institution

- Students must submit an application online through a link emailed to students.
- Announcements will be made by instructors through zoom meetings for students enrolled in online learning and externship.
- An application will be made available to all eligible students on our website at southtexasraining.com/cares
- In addition, all students will receive an email to their assigned student email account with information and an easily accessible link to the online application
- Students not currently attending a class or actively participating in online lecture due to LOA, Externship etc will receive an email to the supplied personal email account along with a courtesy call.
- Instructional staff have been instructed to make a verbal announcement regarding the available funds and process during scheduled online class meetings.
- A listing of all applications submitted will be cross referenced with roster of students enrolled.
- Phone calls with follow up emails will be done with students who have not submitted their application with a closing date of May 22, 2020
- Review process will begin May 26, 2020
- Checks will begin to be mailed out May 27, 2020