Connecticut College CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid to Students
Report #1 (5/24/2020)
Award No. P425E202996

On March 27, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19. The CARES Act allocates approximately $14 billion for state and private education, with $12.56 billion of that constituting the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to provide funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.” This is Connecticut College’s first report on the distribution of funds from the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Acknowledgement of Funding and Certification
On April 13, 2020, Connecticut College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement for Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding and intends to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received under § 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.

Total Award
Connecticut College has received a total of $1,202,711 under § 18004(a)(1) of the HEERF, of which at least $601,356 will be provided directly to students impacted by campus disruptions due to the novel coronavirus.

Funds Distributed to Date
As of May 14, 2020, Connecticut College has awarded $189,900 in direct grants to students.

Student Eligibility
Connecticut College estimates that 1,609 students are eligible for CARES Act funds. These students meet the requirement for the CARES Act regulations issued by the Department of Education on April 21, 2020.

Methods Used to Determine Which Students Receive Aid and How Much
In an effort to provide as much meaningful funding to the greatest number of eligible students, Connecticut College has opted to distribute 75 percent of its total allocation, exceeding the required 50 percent of HEERF to students. The College will distribute awards to all Title IV eligible students and will employ a tiered approach, allocating funds based on level of need. CARES Act HEERF grants to students will range from $350 up to $1,000, awarded based on the level of institutional financial aid students have received.

Instructions or Directions Given to the Students
Communications with students included email notifications and information posted to the newly created CARES Act webpage.