

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 371 students.

Student Eligibility

Connecticut College estimates that 1,609 students are eligible for CARES Act funds. The students met 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 determined that it was necessary to distribute more than the required 50 percent of HEERF to students. Based on the number of students needing support, the College will distribute almost 65 percent of the total allocation directly to students. 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. This tiered approach to grant awards provides substantial award amounts to our neediest students as well as emergency grants to all Title IV eligible students who may be struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Instructions or Directions Given to the Students

Instructions provided to students regarding the Emergency Financial Aid Grants can be found [here](#).