

HEERF I - Federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

On March 27, 2020, Congress enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (the CARES Act or Act). The CARES Act provides economic relief to students facing hardship due to the COVID-19 crisis, including financial assistance for Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) under Title IV of the Act. St. Joseph's College of Nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center signed and returned the Certification and Agreement to the Department on June 16, 2020.

Application Deadline: May 24, 2020

*An application does not guarantee funding will be awarded.

Who is eligible to receive CARES Act funding?

- SJCON Application attestation
- Matriculated as of March 17, 2020 and meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress
- U.S. citizenship status
- Valid 2019-20 or 2020-21 FAFSA - Title IV eligible
- Must have been in good academic standing at start of COVID-19

Who is considered ineligible for funding?

- International and DACA students
- Federal/institutional loan default status
- Met federal aggregate loan limits

What expenses can be covered with CARES Act funding?

Grants are intended to reduce financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, but in some instances will not fully resolve or remove the financial burden. Examples of COVID-19 related expenses eligible for grant consideration include, but are not limited to:

- Emergency travel caused by the abrupt transition to online learning
- Child care expenses
- Technology expenses created by the shift to online learning
- Medical/health-related expenses due to COVID-19
- Rent/food

Can I use my CARES payment towards a current/past due balance?

No. Per federal guidance, emergency cash grants to students CANNOT be applied towards outstanding balances and must be disbursed directly to the student.

How were awards determined?

Funds were awarded to students who meet the above eligibility requirements. Awards were determined by the 2019-20 or 2020-21 FAFSA's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and divided into three (3) tiers based on a student's financial need level. If no FAFSA application was on file, applicant was required to submit an additional self-attestation in reference to Section 484, and categorized as Tier 3.

Tier	EFC	Blocks
1	0 - 20,000	\$1,075
2	20,000 - 42,000	\$750
3	42,000	\$350

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How many SJCON students are eligible to received CARES Act emergency grants?

Based on 2019-20 submitted FAFSA applications, approximately 264 students could have been eligible for CARES Act funding. St. Joseph's College of Nursing estimated 129 students were eligible to receive CARES Act emergency grants at the time funds were received based on a required application process by the institution.

How much is available for emergency financial aid to students?

Fifty percent of the total allocation, received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, was distributed to student emergency funding portion equaling \$130,822.

The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

- \$129,175 was awarded as of June 29, 2020.
- An additional \$7,200 was disbursed as of August 17, 2020 (\$5,553 of the institutional portion was used to assist waitlist applicants)

How many students have been awarded Emergency Financial Aid Grants under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act after 30 days?

- 128 students have been approved for funds and awarded as of June 29, 2020
- 7 additional students were approved for funding and awarded as of August 17, 2020

Instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

- Instructions were sent via email, Canvas, and website to apply for CARES Act funding if students incurred unexpected costs due to the disruption of COVID-19.
- The application deadline was May, 24, 2020. Waitlist applicants were reviewed on August 5, 2020.
- Payments will be issued directly to the student's permanent home address. A disclosure statement is emailed with an overview and the option to return funds if the recipient feels they received funding in error.

Will more funding be available?

Funds from the CARES Act Student Portion were exhausted as of September 30, 2020.