

Warren County Community College

CARES Acknowledgement and Information (Updated 12/31/2021)

1. WCCC is participating the HEERF Program (known as “CARES” on the WCCC campus) to provide emergency funding under Section 18004 (a)(1) to students on the WCCC campus to meet unanticipated financial needs related to the pandemic.
2. The total amount of funds provided to students for distribution is \$2,288,443. This includes funds from CARES, CRSSA and ARP programs.
3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed by WCCC to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act:
 - as of 5/22/2020: \$ 27,715
 - as of 7/1/2020: \$ 31,365
 - as of 9/1/2020: \$ 55,700
 - as of 10/1/2020: \$ 125,912
 - as of 12/31/2020: \$ 170,518
 - as of 3/31/2021: \$ 414,629
 - as of 6/30/2021: \$ 510,677
 - as of 9/30/2021: \$ 658,569
 - as of 12/31/2021: \$1,145,992
4. The estimated total number of 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 has been between 900-1000 students each semester since the inception of the program. The number of fall 2021 eligible students was 1,002.
5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is
 - as of 5/22/2020: 39 students
 - as of 7/1/2020: 46 students
 - as of 9/1/2020: 83 students
 - as of 10/1/2020: 144 students
 - as of 12/31/2020: 182 students
 - as of 3/31/2021: 335 students
 - as of 6/30/2021: 421 students

- as of 9/30/2021: 578 students
- as of 12/31/2022: 869 students

Awards by Semester have been as follows:

Semester:	Students Awarded	Total Awards
Spring 2020	39	\$ 27,715
Summer 2020	45	\$ 28,735
Fall 2020	103	\$ 120,320
Spring 2021	178	\$ 281,364
Summer 2021	119	\$ 116,085
Fall 2021	385	\$ 571,773
Cumulative as of December 31, 2021	869	\$ 1,145,992

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act is as follows:

Eligibility for Award (updated in Spring 2021 per ARP guidelines)

- Students should a FAFSA for the current academic year to determine whether they are considered financially needy; Awards will be prioritized first to financially needy students as defined by Pell eligibility. Students who did not complete a priority will be considered last.
- Students must be enrolled in at least one class.
- Students must complete a request for a WCCC CARES Act Grant Request form and provide a brief explanation of need (see application on CARES home page)
- Unless students need funds for materials (such as books or technology), funds are not disbursed until after the first day of classes.

Award Availability (updated in Spring 2021 per ARP guidelines)

- Tuition and fee awards of will cover up to 100% of semester tuition and fees less any Financial Aid Grant eligibility.
- A maximum award of \$1,170-\$3,000 is available for additional expenses, depending on the number of credits attempted.
- High school students are limited to any tuition and fees not supported through the sponsoring high schools and funds for books.
- All students interested in receiving funds must submit a CARES application.

Award Selection

- Applications are initially screened by the Financial Aid Office, which gathers additional information on requests if sufficient detail was not provided.
- Applicants that meet the eligibility requirements (see above) are forwarded to the CARES Scholarship Committee on a rolling basis. The committee reviews requests blindly (no names or identifiable student information is provided).
- Pell grant eligible students are considered as students with exceptional need and therefore considered as priority applicants. If sufficient funds are available for additional students, non-Pell grant recipients are considered. At this time, because of available funds, all applicants, regardless of need, have been considered.
- The Committee determines the final CARES grant award.
- The Financial Aid office awards the funds through the financial aid system, and transmitted this information to the Business Office.
- The Business Office processes and mails checks to students within days of receiving the Committee Award recommendations.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants:

All instructions are found on the CARES application. By signing the application, students are certifying that they require funds for the stated purpose. For those requesting tuition and fee assistance, students have the option to have the funds directly deposited into their WCCC payment account.

Dissemination of Information

Information regarding the Grants is provided under COVID announcements on the College home page. There is a link prominently displayed on the home page for <http://www.warren.edu/covid-19-updates-click-here-for-up-to-date-information/>

The CARES application is prominently displayed on this page. All students who applied for financial aid since the program began in Spring 2020 have been notified about the availability of CARES as part of the Financial Aid application process and also advised that they may have their federal financial assistance eligibility reconsidered on the basis of “professional judgement” due to financial circumstance changes that have arisen due to the COVID pandemic.

The CARES application includes instructions on how to complete the application. Students are instructed to submit an application or address any questions to CARES@Warren.edu.