

Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds

May 13, 2020

Delgado Community College has signed and returned to the U.S. Department of Education the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, 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.

The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution's Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students: \$5,655,191

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): \$5,655,211

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: 7,799

The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act: 7,799

Following are the method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they will receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Students in the following categories will be eligible to receive CARES Act Student Emergency Grants:

- students with active enrollment in a Title IV eligible program between March 1-31, 2020,
- students who filed a FAFSA no later than March 13, 2020, and
- students who were eligible to receive Title IV funds within the spring 2020 semester

Students in the following categories are NOT eligible to receive the CARES Act Student Emergency Grants:

- students who are incarcerated,
- students who are cross-enrolled and whose "home institution" is a non-LCTCS college,
- students who were enrolled only in online courses, and
- full-time employees of the college

Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds FAQ's

1. What is the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020. The Act provides funds to colleges to give to eligible students to assist with costs related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus.

2. What do I have to do to receive funds?

Students do not have to take any additional steps to become eligible for funding. *Eligible students should have selected a refund preference. See #5.*

3. What does it mean to be “eligible to receive Title IV funds?”

The United States Department of Education’s guidelines state that students must meet requirements as outlined in Section 484 of the Higher Education Act. So, to receive these grant funds students must:

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a degree or certificate program
- Not be enrolled in elementary or secondary school
- For currently enrolled students, be making satisfactory academic progress
- Not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants or loans
- Not be in default on a Title IV loan
- File "as part of the original financial aid application process" a certification that includes
 - A statement of educational purpose
 - Student's SSN
- Be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen
- Have returned fraudulently obtained Title IV funds if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges
- Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits
- Have repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently
- Have Selective Service registration verified
- Have Social Security Number verified
- Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale while receiving Title IV aid, with certain time limitation

4. I know someone who goes to another college and received a different amount. Why is that?

Every college received a different amount of funds from the United States Department of Education. Because each college had a different amount of money and a different number of eligible students, grant amounts will vary by college.

5. How will I receive my funds?

Delgado Community College has partnered with [BankMobile](#) to deliver refunds to students. If you have not selected your preference, simply follow these steps:

1. Log in to your LoLA account
2. Go to the STUDENT Tab and then to the ACADEMIC LINKS section. Under DELGADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE, click on SELECT REFUND CHOICE.
3. Select how you want your refund delivered.

6. When will I receive my funds?

At this time, we anticipate sending grants out by May 15, 2020.

7. Do these funds have to be repaid?

No. These are emergency grant funds and do not have to be repaid.

8. What am I supposed to use the funds for?

There are no specific restrictions on how you should use your funds. However, students are encouraged to use the funds to help them to continue attending college. That might mean buying a computer or internet service so you can attend online classes, for example.

9. I was enrolled in courses that ended before March 1 or after March 31, 2020. Am I eligible?

No, only students who were enrolled in courses between March 1-31, 2020 are eligible because that is the time period in which campus disruptions occurred.

10. I submitted my FAFSA after March 13. Am I eligible?

No, only students who had demonstrated Title IV eligibility by submitting a FAFSA by the day a national emergency was declared (March 13, 2020) are eligible.

11. Why are students who were enrolled only in online courses excluded?

According to the United States Department of Education, the funds are for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, and students who were enrolled exclusively online would not have expenses related to the disruption of campus operations.

12. Does the number of hours I was enrolled in during the spring semester affect my eligibility?

No. The number of classes or credit hours a student was enrolled in for the spring semester does not in any way affect whether they are eligible for the funds or not.

13. I have more questions. Whom can I contact?

If you have questions, please contact us by using our [online welcome desk](#). The Delgado staff welcomes your questions and will continue to find innovative ways to serve you.