HEERF - Student Financial Aid Quarterly Progress Report April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department 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 University of Central Missouri (UCM) signed and submitted the Certification and Agreement document to the US Department of Education, through a Grants.gov submission, on April 15, 2020. UCM agreed to use no less than 50 percent of these funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students in accordance with Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act and agreed to comply with all aspects of this certification, including maintaining employees.

2. 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.

UCM received its Grant Award Notifications (GAN) on April 25, 2020 in the amount of \$3,454,160 for HEERF I, on January 17, 2021 in the amount of \$3,454,160 for HEERF II, and on May 21,2021 in the amount of \$10,699,104 for a total of \$17,607,424. All funds have been or will be used to issue direct student financial aid grants.

3. 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.

As of June 30, 2021, total aid of \$6,908,320 has been issued to students under the Student Aid Portion of HEERF I and HEERF II.

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 received Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

UCM, to date, has identified 6,746 students who met the eligibility criteria based on Spring 2020 enrollment and 7,025 students who met the eligibility criteria based on Spring 2021 enrollment.

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.

As of June 30, 2021, 6,746 students have had payments issued to them for Spring 2020 and 7,025 students in Spring 2021. Of the Spring 2020 students, eight students did not deposit their checks. After attempts to contact them through email and phone calls were unsuccessful, their checks were voided and the funds, totaling \$2,725 were placed back in the pool on June 28, 2021 for distribution to a new set of students for the Fall 2021 semester. For the Spring 2021 students,

originally, only 7,013 were identified as eligible and received payments. An additional 12 students were identified as eligible to receive aid and were issued payments on April 8, 2021.

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.

HEERF I:

Eligible students were determined based on FAFSAs and citizenship status on file and students having at least one in person course during the Spring 2020 semester which was still active after March 13, 2020. Students' enrollment level/number of credit hours determined the level of aid they received, based on selected eligible expenditures which students incurred as part of the institutional transition to remote learning.

Credit Hours	12+	9-11	6-8	1-5
Aid Amount	\$450	\$325	\$200	\$75

Students who incurred expenditures beyond the identified allotment submitted applications to received additional aid. The funds issued in this reporting cycle were from approved additional requests of aid.

HEERF II:

Full List of Students (enrolled as of February 25, 2021) was pulled

- o ... be maintaining satisfactory progress in the course of study the student is pursuing...
- Excluded International, DACA, Undergrads below 6 credit hours and Graduate students with less than 4 credit hours students.

Divided students between Graduate and Undergraduate, and further sub-divided the students by Full-time or Part-time status as well as by EFC.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Full-time Students (12+ credit hours)			
*EFC	# of	Per Student	Category
LIC	students	Aid Amount	Total
0-5,711	1,747	\$1,150	\$2,009,050
5,712-12,000	668	\$800	\$534,400
12,0001+	2,656	\$300	\$796,800

Part-time Students (6-11 credit hours)			
*EFC	# of	Per Student	Category
EFC	students	Aid Amount	Total
0-5,711	265	\$575	\$152,375
5,712-12,000	78	\$400	\$31,200
12,0001+	371	\$150	\$55,650

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Full-time Students (9+ credit hours)			
*EFC	# of students	Per Student Aid Amount	Category Total
0-5,711	182	\$1,200	\$218,400
5,712-12,000	25	\$850	\$21,250
12,0001+	130	\$300	\$39,000

Part-time Students (4-8 credit hours)			
*EFC	# of	Per Student	Category
EFC	students	Aid Amount	Total
0-5,711	247	\$600	\$148,200
5,712-12,000	98	\$425	\$41,650
12,0001+	547	\$150	\$82,050

^{*}EFC = Estimated Family Contribution – Used to determine level of need. Students who did not have a FAFSA on file were placed in the 12,001+ group

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

HEERF I:

The following communication was emailed to all students and all employees on Friday, May 8th and provided in an institutional (UCM Daily) news announcement on Monday, May 11th:

CARES Act Makes Emergency Grants for Students Possible

1 message

UCM News Bureau <newsbureau@ucmo.edu>

Fri, May 8, 2020 at 2:31 PM

To: All Students <allstudents@ucmo.edu>, All Employees <allemployees@ucmo.edu>

The federal government's Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Securities (CARES) Act is making it possible for universities to provide students with emergency grants for specific expenses that are a direct result of the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus. Please click on the link below to learn more about how to apply for CARES Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds.

https://www.ucmo.edu/news/media-resources/corona-virus-covid-19/cares-higher-edemergency-relief-fund-fag/

University of Central Missouri News Bureau ADM 302 Warrensburg, MO 64093 660-543-4640

This communication also provided a link to UCM's FAQs page. UCM is systematically updating this page based on additional questions that are coming in.

A centralized email account has been created <u>CARES@ucmo.edu</u>, to address specific student questions. Standardized responses have been created for these questions. These standard responses, to date, are:

Can international students apply? - Please see <u>FAQs page</u> on "Who is eligible to apply?" for guidance on this.

Am I eligible to apply? - Please see <u>FAQs page</u> on "Who is eligible to apply?" for guidance on this. Pre-approved students will receive an email, through their UCM student email account,

with the amount they will receive. Students who did not meet the initial eligibility criteria will receive an email with additional instructions on the application process.

Where is the application form? - The form will be made available as soon as possible and students will receive an email notification for when they may submit applications. Students are encouraged to complete an 2019-2020 FAFSA before submitting their application for support.

How will I get my money? - Please see <u>FAQs page</u> on "How do students receive their grant money?" for guidance on this. The funds will be directly deposited into a student's bank account if they are enrolled in direct deposit. Student's without direct deposit will receive a refund check in the mail. It is strongly recommended that students review their direct deposit setup and make sure your mailing address has been updated through 'My Central'.

When will I receive the money? You should receive your funds within the next two weeks.

Is there anything else I need to do? Students do not have to complete an application if they received an email indicating they are eligible to receive emergency money under the recently passed CARES Act. It is strongly recommended that students review their direct deposit setup and make sure your mailing address has been updated through 'My Central'.

Is the grant taxable income? The funds provided to students as part of the CARES Act's Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) are not considered income, and, therefore are not taxable. For additional information, please see the <u>IRS FAQs page</u>.

How can I use these funds? Please see the <u>FAQs page</u> which addresses allowable expenditures under these funds.

What if I did not get an email? Emails are in the process of being sent to the student's @ucmo.edu account and you should be getting one in the coming day or two.

Why are online students excluded from the CARES Act Funds? The U.S. Department of Education stated that CARES Act HEERF funds are to cover costs related to the institutional transition to remote learning. Students who were already enrolled in exclusively online courses during the Spring 2020 semester, per federal guidance (please see the <u>Department of Education's FAQs</u>, item 12), are not eligible to receive these funds.

Additionally, for the preapproved students, the following language was sent to their student email accounts, with the approved amount provided to students:

Good Afternoon,

You have been identified as an eligible student to receive emergency funding under the recently passed CARES Act. These funds are granted to students to aid in covering costs as a result of UCM's decision to extend Spring Break and move to online classes for the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester due to COVID-19.

Based on our data, we have determined that you are eligible to receive \$x.00 within the next two weeks.

You do not need to do anything to receive this funding and no application is required to receive this amount

We determined this amount by calculating an allowance for Course Materials/Technology, Food/Housing and Travel/Other costs, then spread this amount over the number of enrolled credit hours.

Application for Additional Funds

If you have incurred costs greater than \$x.00 as a result of UCM's changes due to COVID-19, you may apply for additional aid online starting May 18, 2020. The link to the online application will be found through our FAQ page here. You will be required to justify your request for assistance and provide documentation, such as receipts, on the application. These funds are limited and will be issued on a first come first serve basis. Applications will be accepted through May 31, 2020, or until all funds are disbursed.

If you have any questions, check out our <u>FAQ</u> (link) first. If you cannot find your answer in the FAQ, please email <u>cares@ucmo.edu</u> following these guidelines:

- 1. Your message to <u>cares@ucmo.edu</u> must be from your UCM email account;
- 2. Include your legal first and last name and your UCM ID # (700#)
- 3. The nature of your request

Thank you, UCM CARES Team

Instructions and links for the application were emailed to students and the email is included below.

HEERF II: (content from webpage and to students' emails)

CARES Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund FAQ

Second Round Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II) – Student Aid

The federal government passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), effective December 27, 2020. This included a second round of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF II).

If you received an email on March 11, 2021 through your student email account directing you to update direct deposit and/or mailing address, you have been identified as a student eligible to receive funds from this grant. Payments will be made on a predetermined formula based on Spring 2021 enrollment as of February 25, 2021 with priority placed on students with the highest need. If you did not complete a FAFSA then your estimated family contribution (EFC) score was calculated at the 12,001+ (Tier 3). A link to the aid amounts can be found below. There will not be an application process. The Federal HEERF II Emergency Aid is awarded on a one-time basis, and is not renewable. Due to limited funding, award amounts are not negotiable.

Students who are set up with direct deposit will receive an email through their UCM student email accounts notifying them that their payment has been processed. Please allow up to 3 business days from the email notification for the funds to hit your bank account. If you do not set up a direct deposit, you will receive a check in the mail to your permanent address and will not receive an email notification.

<u>Direct deposit is the fastest method for you to receive aid and refunds.</u> Students will have until the close of business (COB) on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 to update their direct deposit information and/or their primary mailing address before UCM starts processing payments. Additional information on updating this information is below.

Payment Methods:

Direct Deposit/ACH - Students are strongly encouraged to make sure they are set up to receive direct deposit (ACH) from UCM to speed up the receipt of these funds. Students who are set up with direct deposit will receive their funds first. If you are already set up for direct deposit, this is how you will receive your funds. UCM does not use this information to process automatic withdrawals for account balances.

Update Direct Deposit

Check - If payment by check is preferred, students need to review their primary mailing address to make sure that it is going to a current address. Please allow at least 2 weeks for the check to arrive at the address on file with UCM through USPS.

Update Primary Address

HEERF II does allow students to use their aid funds to pay down their outstanding account balances with UCM. UCM will **not** directly apply the student aid to a student's account. If you have an amount owed, once you receive the aid, you may use the funds to pay towards your UCM account balance.

HEERF II Student Aid Eligibility and Amounts

For additional information about these funds, please visit the US Department of Education's website for this

program: https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/crrsaa.html

Any additional updates of information regarding HEERF II will be posted on this page.

Last modified: March 17, 2021