Quarterly Report on Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF I & II)—Student Aid Portion

Report Date: April 10, 2021 (quarter January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021)

South Louisiana Community College (SLCC) received education stabilization funds under Section 314(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Pub. L. 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. On August 31, 2020, the Office of Postsecondary Education published revised information for requirements related to Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) reporting (Federal Register document 2020-19041). Reporting for HEERF funds distributed to SLCC will be accessible to the public 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation and updated every quarter thereafter. This report applies to the remaining student portion received under HEERF I and the new portion received under HEERF II that is designated exclusively for emergency financial aid grants to students.

Acknowledgement

SLCC received a Grant Award Notification on January 15, 2021 for Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA. SLCC will use no less than 100 percent of the funds received under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

Amount of Funding Received

SLCC received $2,822,975 from the Department of Education pursuant to the institution’s Grant Award Notification.

Amount of Funding Distributed to Students

The total amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act (HEERF I) during the quarter of this report was $9,355.32. Students with stale checks and unclaimed funds were contacted to obtain updated information, and funds were redistributed on January 25, 2021 to 10 students ($779.61 per student) for a total of $7,796.10. The remaining balance of $1,566.41 was combined with CRRSAA funds for new emergency financial aid grants to students. Thus, this is the final report that covers all remaining HEERF I fund expenditures for Section 18004(a)(1) Student Portion funds.

The total amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed to students under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA (HEERF II) during the quarter of this report was $2,822,975. An additional $9,518.59 of Institutional Portion funds were used as a buffer against unclaimed funds to ensure that all Student Aid portion funds were expended. Thus, this is the final report that covers all remaining HEERF II fund expenditures for Section 314(a)(1) Student Portion funds.

Summary breakdown:

- HEERF I Student Aid Portion remaining balance: $9,355.32
- HEERF II Student Aid Portion funds: $2,822,975
- Institutional Portion funds: $9,518.59

Estimated Number of Eligible Students

A total of 2,807 SLCC students were initially deemed 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 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA. Students who were eligible to receive emergency grants were notified via email from the Louisiana Community and Technical College System on Monday, February 22, 2021.

Number of Students Who Have Received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant

As of the date of this report, a total of 2,806 students received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant under Section 314(a)(1) of CRRSAA. The Student Accounts Office began disbursing funds on Thursday, March 4, 2021. BankMobile was utilized to make funds available to students. If funds are not claimed by the students within 21 days, then BankMobile will issue a check via postal mail.

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Method Used to Determine Which Students Received Emergency Financial Aid Grants

In order to provide consistency across all colleges, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System developed the following eligibility requirements:

- Students with active enrollment for Spring 2021 as of February 18, 2021 excluding courses with a start date in the future
- Students who filed a FAFSA, who were considered eligible for the Federal Pell grant based on the estimated family contribution (EFC)
- Students who are considered an eligible citizen or non-citizen verified through FAFSA completion
- Students who are considered degree seeking, excluding:
  - Prisoners
  - High school
  - Adult education
  - Non-credit students
  - Visiting and non-matriculating students
  - Cross-enrolled students whose “home institution” is a non-LCTCS college
  - Employees of the institutions

On February 22, 2021, an email was sent to SLCC students to provide detailed information regarding eligibility requirements. The total allocation was then equally divided among all eligible students; thus, each received $1,010 in emergency funds.

Directions/Guidance Provided to Students

A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) document was developed to assist students in understanding the reasoning behind these eligibility requirements and distribution of the funds. Students can email questions to CARESQuestions@solacc.edu.