

Initial CARES ACT Student Financial Aid Grant Report

The estimated total number of students enrolled in the spring 2020 semester who are or could be 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 is 1,093.

As of September 30, 2020, Richmond Community College has distributed \$996,984 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to 912 students under the Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

The methodology used by the College is as follows:

Methodology

The Leadership Team of Richmond Community College reviewed the guidelines provided by the US Department of Education as it pertained to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. It was the consensus of the group that all students still enrolled as of March 13, 2020 (except those enrolled in online classes only) were affected by the campus disruption, and therefore, if they met the requirements, should be eligible for funding. In the document entitled Frequently Asked Questions about the Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004 of the CARES Act, question #9 states:

“What students are eligible to receive emergency financial aid grants from the HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund)?

Only students who are or could be eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), may receive emergency financial aid grants. If a student has filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), then the student has demonstrated eligibility to participate in programs under Section 484 the HEA. Students who have not filed a FAFSA but who are eligible to file a FAFSA also may receive emergency financial aid grants. The criteria to participate in programs under Section 484 of the HEA include but are not limited to the following: U.S. citizenship or eligible noncitizen; a valid Social Security number; registration with Selective Service (if the student is male); and a high school diploma, GED, or completion of high school in an approved homeschool setting.”

Students who had not filed a FAFSA were given the opportunity to do so before an established deadline. If they missed that deadline, they were given one more opportunity to submit a COVID-19 Federal Award Application to the financial aid office. All students who were enrolled as of March 13th and met the above criteria were eligible for \$1,000, regardless of their course load.

During September 2020, 452 students that were impacted during the Spring 2020 semester, but were resilient enough to return for the Fall 2020 semester and were still enrolled as of September 24, 2020 were awarded an additional \$172.53.

Students who had not completed a FAFSA application by the established deadlines were given an opportunity to complete a COVID-19 Federal Award Application. See document 1:



Serving Richmond and Scotland Counties

Student Services
1042 W Hamlet Ave.
PO Box 1189
Hamlet NC 28345

COVID-19 Federal Award Application

Name: _____

Student ID: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Are you requesting funds for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus?

_____ **YES**

_____ **NO**

Please indicated the categories for which you experienced financial hardship related to the disruption of campus operation due to coronavirus:

_____ **Tuition and/or fees**

_____ **Course Materials** (to pay for additional materials required due to transition to online and/or additional materials needed)

_____ **Technology** (to purchase technology required to transition to online)

_____ **Childcare**

_____ **Expenses** (related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus)

****Have you registered for the Selective Service/draft? (If applicable) _____ NO _____ YES**

Richmond Community College received funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Security (CARES) Act to provide emergency grants to students. On May 5, 2020, RichmondCC mailed letters to notify students that they may be eligible to receive funding for unforeseen expenses that were incurred due to COVID-19. To be considered, a student only had to complete the 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Our records show you have not completed this application. If you would still like to be considered, please complete this form. You are also attesting that your need is related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus and falls into one of the eligible categories of expenses listed above.



Serving Richmond and Scotland Counties

Office of the President

William D. McInnis, Ed.D.

1042 West Hamlet Avenue

May 14, 2020

Dear CARES Act Recipient:

Richmond Community College is very much aware of how the coronavirus has affected students. Due to the disruption of campus operations, many students incurred unforeseen expenses by having to transition from face-to-face to online instruction.

Congress has provided institutions with funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Security (CARES) Act to assist students with unforeseen expenses and financial challenges. Because you were in a face-to-face class that transitioned to online or were in a face-to-face class that was paused, you have been selected to receive this one-time funding.

Enclosed you will find a check for \$1000.00. It is our hope that this funding will ease some of the financial burdens you experienced and allow you to continue your education at Richmond Community College.

Sincerely,

William D. McInnis, Ed.D.

President



Serving Richmond and Scotland Counties

Office of the President
William D. McInnis, Ed.D.
1042 West Hamlet Avenue
Post Office Box 1189, Hamlet, NC 28345
(910) 410-1806
Fax (910) 582-7028

September 29, 2020

Dear CARES Act Recipient:

Richmond Community College is very much aware of how the coronavirus has affected students. We realize that many students continue to incur unforeseen expenses by having to be prepared to transition from face-to-face to online instruction.

Congress has provided institutions with funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Security (CARES) Act to assist students with unforeseen expenses and financial challenges. Because you were in a face-to-face class that transitioned to online or were in a face-to-face class that was paused during the Spring 2020 semester and you have continued to attend classes at RichmondCC this Fall, you have been selected to receive an additional allocation.

Enclosed you will find a check for \$172.53. It is our hope that this funding will ease some of the additional financial burdens you experienced and allow you to continue your education at Richmond Community College.

Sincerely,

William D. McInnis, Ed.D.
President

On May 4, 2020, text and email were sent to all eligible students stating:

Students,

Richmond Community College is very much aware of how the coronavirus disruption has affected Workforce and Economic Development (WED) students. Unforeseen expenses can challenge even the best of circumstances. However, I am writing you to let you know you may be eligible to receive funding for some of those unforeseen expenses you incurred.

Richmond Community College is eligible to receive funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Security (CARES) Act to provide an emergency grant to students.

What must you do to apply for this money?

You must complete the 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form by May 8, 2020. Even though WED students are not eligible to receive the Pell Grant, the financial aid information you submit on the application will help the Financial Aid Office determine if you are eligible for CARES Act funding.

If you have any questions or need help completing the application, please call one of the Financial Aid representatives listed below.

- Andrea Daniels (910) 410-1724
- Mary Bostic (910) 410-1739
- Dawn McElroy (910) 410-1723
- Crystal Shepard (910) 410-1727
- Kelly Ashby (910) 410-1908

FAFSA website for application:

<https://studentaid.gov/>

Remember, you must submit this application by May 8, 2020 so we can have your information by May 15, 2020.

Sincerely,

Sharon B. Goodman

Vice President of Student Services

910-410-1734