



## **CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students**

30 Day Report

May 14, 2020

1. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington has signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement on 4/14/2020. We intend 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.
2. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington has received \$5,283,027 from the Department pursuant to our Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of 5/14/2020 is \$4,383,150.
4. As of the Spring 2020 semester, the estimated total number of students at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington 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 was approximately 13,000.
5. The total number of students at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of May 14, 2020 is 6,820.
6. The method(s) used by the University of North Carolina at Wilmington 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 described as follows:
  - a. Determine criteria for eligible students:
    - Students who were not in a distance education exclusive program and
    - Students who had a FAFSA with no outstanding eligibility requirements and
    - Students who were meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress.
  - b. Identify eligible students with the greatest need first (per federal guidance):
    - Using all students with gross need - sorted by EFC (Expected Family Contribution).
    - Students with the lowest EFC of (0) received the largest grant of \$800 which matched the max amount of our institutional emergency grant.
    - Via a tiered approach using the EFCs, the grant amount extended down to a minimum \$300 for those with higher EFCs.
  - c. Student acknowledgement:
    - Using the secure UNCW Seahawk Portal, students acknowledged their understanding and use of these funds.
    - Students agreed to return funds by December 15, 2020, if they determined that the funding was not needed.
  - d. Remaining grant funds will be distributed based on student application submission and campus committee evaluation.
7. The student body was emailed information regarding the grants on May 6, 2020.