

CARES Act & Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

Report for HEERF II Student Aid

September 15, 2021

About The CARES Act and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

Introduction

The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorizes \$81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the \$30.75 billion expeditiously provided last spring through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136.

- Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, & Technical Careers signed and submitted the Department of Education Certification & Agreement on March 6, 2021. By doing so, Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, & Technical Careers assures that it will use 100% of the funds under the CRRSAA and ARP (a)(1) and (a)(4) programs to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.
- Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, & Technical Careers will receive a total of \$280,069 for emergency student grants in the budget period 3/6/2021 to 3/5/2022. The funds will be disbursed to the college for three quarters:

QTR 1 May 3, 2021 - \$112,000

QTR 2 August 30, 2021 - \$98,000

QTR 3 November 1, 2021 – \$70,069

All funds (100%) will be distributed to students who are currently enrolled on that date in the same manner as previous – those with the lowest EFC's are in the most need and will receive a larger amount.

- 3. The second disbursement of \$98,000 was received on August 31, 2021. Checks were mailed to students September 1 and 9, 2021. As of this submission \$93,350 has been distributed to students.
- 4. All currently enrolled students as of September 1, 2021 were eligible for emergency grants.
- 5. Checks were mailed to 242 students. Some were returned for incorrect address and those were rewritten and mailed to the student. As of this date, one check remains unclear. Twelve checks were returned and voided. A balance of \$4650 is currently in the account.

6. CRRSAA requires that institutions prioritize the funds by student need. Chattanooga College Medical, Dental, & Technical Careers distributed grants based on a student's expected family contribution, or EFC, which is a number that is calculated based on information a student provides on the FAFSA.

One hundred twelve (112) students with an EFC of 0 to 999 received an award of \$500. Eighteen (18) students with an EFC from 1000 to 2999 received an award of \$400. Ninety eight (98) other students received an award of \$300. (this is the rest of the enrolled students).

7. There were no special instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants. These funds are to be used by the student for any hardship needs.

The following note was included in each envelope with the check: Dear Student,

You are entitled to this check as a result of the governments' CARES ACT/HERRF. You must be a current student at Chattanooga College. If you received this and you are not currently a student, you must return the check. These funds are NOT financial aid and will not otherwise have to be repaid. You may use these funds for your educational expenses or items related to COVID -19.