



## **Henderson State University CARES Act Report**

**Portion of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) allocation:**

\$1,883,966

**Amount distributed as of May 11, 2020:**

\$1,172,430

**Estimated number of eligible students:**

2,534 in Title IV programs for Spring 2020

**Number of students who have received HEERF grants as of May 11, 2020:**

1,766

A study of all Title IV eligible students enrolled in Spring 2020 semester was conducted by financial aid staff. The study looked at all students enrolled on campus prior to March 13 when the pandemic was declared.

A review of Need, Remaining Need and Remaining Eligibility was completed comparing groups of students at a variety of Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) levels—including those who are Pell eligible, those above Pell eligibility but below Cost of Attendance (COA) and those with an EFC above COA.

In all three categories, the remaining eligibility was the same within one percentage point. The remaining need for the Pell eligible students and those just above Pell eligibility was remarkably similar. It was noted that many students with EFCs above the cost of attendance were in two programs that were hit especially hard by Covid-19—the professional pilot majors and the nursing majors.

The professional pilots lost the ability to have flight hours needed for their program. The nursing students were unable to continue clinical rotations after March 13. In addition, it was noted that the EFCs for the 2019-20 FAFSA was based on 2017 income which is now three years old. Covid-19 has been an equalizer affecting those at any income level from the minimum wage workers to professionals such as dentists.

A form was created and required before each student could receive HEERF funding. The form served the purpose of screening students for eligible expenses related to the disruption of on campus learning from the declaration of the national pandemic on March 13, 2020.

Students received email and text messages notifications of the awards process on May 1, and the information also was shared on university social media channels.

## President's Update: Submit CARES Act Student Grant Applications by May 15 for Priority Review

Dear Students,

I am pleased to announce our application process to distribute \$1.8 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant funds for Spring 2020 students. These grants are intended to help offset educational costs that you have experienced because of the COVID-19 health emergency.

Applications received by May 15 will receive priority review for processing student checks and direct deposits. The last day to submit applications is June 30.

### **Students who are eligible**

Students who have a valid 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the university and who attended in-person classes prior to March 13 are eligible for funding.

### **Students who are not eligible**

Students whose classes were online for the entire semester, international students, concurrent enrollment students, and students not in a degree-seeking program are not eligible for funding. If you need assistance with your 2019-2020 FAFSA, please contact [financiaid@hsu.edu](mailto:financiaid@hsu.edu) as soon as possible.

*Grants are based on student enrollment as of March 13 during the Spring 2020 semester. Grants will be paid directly to the student based on the following allotments:*

### **Undergraduate students**

\$840: 12 hours or more  
\$630: 9-11 hours  
\$420: 6-8 hours  
\$210: 5 or fewer hours

### **Graduate students**

\$840: 6 hours or more  
\$420: 3 hours

## **Applications**

Applications are available through the Financial Aid Portal on <https://myhenderson.hsu.edu/ics>. Passwords to access the Financial Aid Portal and the application are the same as your myHenderson password. Detailed instructions are attached to this message.

Password or technical questions?

[helpdesk@hsu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@hsu.edu)

Other questions?

[hsuinfo@hsu.edu](mailto:hsuinfo@hsu.edu)

I encourage you to submit your application by May 15 to help us expedite your payments. I know this has been a challenging semester for you. We want to provide this assistance as quickly as possible to help address your financial needs. I know many of you have anxiously awaited this funding, so I thank you for your patience and understanding as we worked with the government to receive and distribute this assistance.

I hope this positive news alleviates some of your concerns and allows you to focus on a successful push to the end of the school year. Please know how much you are missed by your Henderson faculty and staff. I hope to see you soon and I wish you the very best as you complete your final assignments and exams.

Thank you,  
Elaine Kneebone

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