



CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Minority Serving Institution 45 Day Report – August 2020

The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund-IHE/Student Aid provides funding to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students whose lives have been disrupted, many of whom are facing financial challenges and struggling to make ends meet.

Additionally, San Antonio College was approved for supplementary CARES Act funding as a recognized strengthening minority serving institution (MSI). To be eligible for MSI funds, institutions must be designated as eligible in FY 2020 for titles III and V programs, have an enrollment of undergraduate students that is at least 25% Hispanic, 50% of degree students are receiving need-based assistance under Title IV of the Higher Education Act or have a substantial number of enrolled students receiving Pell Grants and have low educational and general expenditures.

Students cannot apply for assistance directly from the U.S. Department of Education but should contact their institutions for further information and guidance. Institutions have the responsibility of determining how grants will be distributed to students, how the amount of each student grant is calculated, and the development of any instructions or directions that are provided to students about the grant.

Accordingly, the following information must appear in a format and location that is easily accessible to the public 30 days after the date when the institution received its allocation under 18004(a)(1) and updated every 45 days thereafter:

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends 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 total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>FUND CODE</u>	<u>ALLOCATION</u>	<u>ALLOC %</u>	<u>AVAILABLE ALLOCATION</u>
HHSI	SAC	HHSI11	\$495,984.00	100.0%	\$495,984.00

3. The total amount of Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every 45 days thereafter).

Currently \$0 funds have been distributed from the CARES Act MSI funds due to continuing to distribute remaining funds from the primary CARES Act Emergency Relief funds received May 2020. We anticipate starting to distribute MSI funds in early August.

4. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

San Antonio College CARES Act Statistics – 07/1/2020

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5. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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.

Based on the guidance in Section 484 San Antonio College estimates that there are approximately 11,661 students who would be eligible for CARES Act Emergency Relief funding based on the Alamo Colleges-published eligibility criteria.

6. The method(s) used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

San Antonio College CARES Act – How to Qualify & How to Apply

<https://www.alamo.edu/sac/news-events/news/2020/may/cares-act-higher-education-emergency-relief-fund/>

San Antonio College's students apply through the Student Financial Aid Office which then evaluates their Title IV eligibility and other applicable CARE Act eligibility criteria. An electronic application is being used for students to request funds. Based on Department of Education guidance, supporting documentation of need was requested but was not mandatory. On the application, students request funds and also sign a certification stating funds are for expenses as a result of a disruption in their education due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The application was placed online in a pre-fillable pdf that was submitted electronically to the priorityaid@alamo.edu inbox. Financial Aid staff then process applications from the queue by date received.

Working collaboratively with the Student Advocacy Centers a rubric was developed to determine student need and award amounts based on current and potential ongoing short-term financial needs for eligible applicants. To date, San Antonio College has disbursed 0% of their funds CARES Act MSI funds allocated to students due to continuing to distribute remaining funds from the primary CARES Act Emergency Relief funds received May 2020.

San Antonio College utilizes the BANNER Student Information System. CARES Act awards to students are disbursed to the student account and then refunded directly to the students. The full CARES Act award is given to the student, with no existing balances impacting the refund.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants. All information provided to students is found on our website at www.alamo.edu/studentemergencyaid