

**DSCC CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL ACT  
(CRRSAA)/HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (HEERF II)  
FUNDING FAQs**

**What is the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021 (CRRSAA) / Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) provided by the federal government?**

To assist students with emergency needs that have arisen due to the pandemic, Congress passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) on December 27, 2020. On February 12, 2021, the Tennessee Board of Regents issued guidance on the student funding calculation and disbursement process.

**How much did DSCC receive from the Department of Education for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students?**

DSCC received \$747,611 in emergency student aid through the HEERF II Grant.

**What is the estimated total number of students at DSCC 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 the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act 2021 (CRRSAA)/Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II)?**

1,500

**What is the total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)/Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II)?**

1,637

**What method(s) are used by the institution to determine which students receive Emergency Financial Aid Grants and how much they would receive?**

DSCC determined funds would be allocated to the largest number of students possible due to impacts of COVID-19 related events. Following US Department of Education guidance, Pell eligible students received priority funding. However, based on our institution's determined criteria, certain non-Pell eligible students were also considered eligible for funding.

**Who is eligible for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) II?**

Criteria for eligibility include:

- An individual must have been enrolled at some point during the Spring 2021 semester
- Students did not have to be Title IV eligible; however, per US Department of Education guidance, eligible students had to meet citizenship requirements
- Students cannot be enrolled as dual enrollment, non-degree seeking, or transient

### **Transient Students Enrolled at another School**

Any student receiving emergency grant aid at DSCC must be enrolled as degree seeking. Students attending another institution, are not eligible for a payment at DSCC. We recommend transient students contacting their home institution to determine how they plan to disburse emergency grant aid.

### **When will Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) II be available?**

DSCC began disbursing HEERF II funds the week of April 7, 2021. Any disbursed emergency grant funds were released to students by either refund check or direct deposit, depending on the method the student has setup with the college. Students were provided the option to authorize payment towards current account balances, but this was not required for eligibility. A payment was not necessarily a reflection of a student's current account balance, as these funds were disbursed directly to a student no matter if a current balance was owed to the institution, unless the student provided authorization for application to account balances. Students determined eligible for HEERF payments received a confirmation email from the DSCC Business Office.

### **How much funding will students get?**

Amount for Pell Eligible Students: \$498.94

Amount for Non-Pell Eligible Students: \$330.91

## **CARES ACT STUDENT EMERGENCY AID FUNDING FAQs**

### **What is the CARES/Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund provided by the federal government?**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law to provide economic relief from COVID-19 on March 27, 2020. One section of the CARES Act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief fund and gave money to schools to use for emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic. DSCC signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Certification and Agreement. DSCC used 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

### **How much did DSCC receive from the Department of Education for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students?**

DSCC received \$747,611 from the US Department of Education for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students.

### **What is the estimated total number of students at DSCC 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?**

1,500

### **What is the total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act?**

1,375

### **What method(s) are 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?**

DSCC held 10% of initial total allocated funding to provide special payments to Title IV eligible students in need who met all eligibility requirements outlined by the US Department of Education. DSCC determined the amount of the additional payment. DSCC used the remaining 90% of total allocated funding to make payments across all full-time or part-time Title IV eligible students. Individuals must have been enrolled on or after March 13<sup>th</sup> for the spring 2020 semester. This does not include students who were not considered eligible for Title IV aid, initially enrolled exclusively in distance education courses as of March 13, 2020, transient, dual

enrolled, non-degree seeking, or special industry. Students were categorized according to Pell eligibility status (based on Expected Family Contribution (EFC)) during the spring 2020 payment period (Pell vs. No Pell). Payments to the Pell eligible group were based on an increase of 5% to the group's overall originally calculated payment allocation. While the non-Pell eligible group's overall payment allocation was reduced accordingly. Distributions to all Pell students were equal, and distributions to all non-Pell eligible students were equal.

### **Who is eligible for the CARES/Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds?**

The US Department of Education released guidelines for emergency grant aid to students that we must verify. The requirements set forth in the federal guidelines for emergency grant aid to students include, but are not limited to:

- An individual must have been a student as of March 13, 2020
- Be enrolled in a financial aid approved degree or certificate program on or after March 13, 2020 for the spring 2020 semester
- Students cannot have been enrolled solely in an online format as of March 13, 2020
- Students paid must be eligible to participate in Title IV financial aid programs, which include, but are not limited to:
  - Maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP)
  - Not owe an overpayment (refund) on Title IV grants
  - Not be in default on a Title IV loan
  - Be a U.S. citizen or national, a permanent resident or an eligible noncitizen
  - Have returned any fraudulently obtained Title IV funds, if the student is convicted of or pleaded guilty or no contest to charges
  - Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits
  - Have repaid any Title IV loan overpayment amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits, if obtained inadvertently
  - Have Selective Service registration verified (if male)
  - Have a valid SSN
  - Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations

Payments to Pell eligible students were also prioritized, as suggested by the US Department of Education.

### **Transient Student Enrolled at Another School**

Any student receiving emergency grant aid at DSCC must be enrolled as degree seeking. Students attending another institution are not eligible for a payment at DSCC. We recommend transient students contacting their home institution to determine how they plan to disburse emergency grant aid.

### **When will CARES/Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds be available?**

DSCC began disbursing CARES funds May 19, 2020. Any disbursed emergency grant funds were released to students by either refund check or direct deposit, depending on the method the student has setup with the college. Students determined eligible for CARES payments received a confirmation email from the DSCC Business Office.

**How much funding will I get?**

Amount for Pell Eligible Students: \$590.23

Amount for Non-Pell Eligible Students: \$514.31

**We will update these FAQ as additional information becomes available.**

*Information updated as of 6/10/2021.*

**RESOURCES**

Applying for Financial Aid - [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

Check your DSCC Financial Aid Status - [www.dsc.edu](http://www.dsc.edu)

DSCC Paying for College website - <https://www.dsc.edu/financial-aid>

**CONTACT US**

Email: [financialaid@dsc.edu](mailto:financialaid@dsc.edu)

Phone: 731-286-3350

**FEDERAL SCHOOL CODE**

The DSCC federal school code is 006835.