

CARES Act Student Portion Reporting 09/30/2021

Introduction

As required by the Office of Postsecondary Education at the Department of Education (ED), Guam Community College (GCC) submits the following on the use of funds distributed from the Higher Education Relief Fund (HEERF).

Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires institutions to use no less than 50 percent of the funds received from Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, healthcare, and child care). On April 9, 2020, the Department published documents related to the Emergency Financial Aid Grants, including a letter from the Secretary, a form Certification and Agreement for signing and returning by institutions to access the funds, and a list of institutional allocations under 18004(a)(1).

The Certification and Agreement directs each institution applying for HEERF funds to comply with Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act and submit an initial report (the “30-day Fund Report”) to the Secretary thirty (30) days from the date of the institution’s Certification and Agreement to ED. Each HEERF participating institution must post the information listed below on the institution’s primary website. 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.

Acknowledgement of Funding and Certification

GCC acknowledges that the authorized representative signed and returned to the Department of Education (ED) the Recipient’s Funding Certification and Agreement Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. GCC gives its 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.

Total Award

GCC has been awarded a total of \$13,019,335 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The US Department of Education issued Award No. P425E200217 for a total amount of \$4,044,452 which will be provided directly to students impacted by campus disruptions due to coronavirus.

Award Information

Number: P425E200217

Title: CARES Act: Institution of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund GCC Student Portion

Budget Period: 04/20/2020 – 05/12/2022

Award Amount: \$4,044,452

CFDA: 84.425E

Funds Distributed to Date

The total amount of funds that has been awarded from the Department of Education pursuant to Guam Community College's CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is \$4,044,452. Guam Community College **did not** distribute Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act from the date of its last report submission, July 1, 2021, to the close of business on September 30, 2021. Spring 2021 uncashed checks for the total amount of \$5,400 were returned to the Grant.

Student Eligibility

The estimated total number of GCC students 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 is 1,732 and 1,585 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively. These figures are based on the number of Spring 2020 and Spring 2021 Full/Part time registered students.

Total Student Awards

The total number of Guam Community College students who have received Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act from April 11, 2020, through the close of business on September 30, 2021 is as follows:

Student Status	Spring 2020		Spring 2021		Total Count	Total Amount
	Student Count	Award Amount	Student Count	Award Amount		
Full Time	805	\$354,200	662	\$397,200	1,467	\$751,400
Part Time	927	203,940	908	272,620	1,835	476,560
Total	1,732	\$558,140	1,570	\$669,820	3302	\$1,227,960

Methods Used to Determine Which Students Received Aid and How Much

GCC received notification of the CARES Act, Education Stabilization Fund grant award of \$574,675 on April 20, 2020. On January 17, 2021, GCC received the new CRRSAA Funds of \$574,675. On May 12, 2021 GCC received notification of an additional award of \$2,895,102 (ARP). Total grant award amount is \$4,044,452.

Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act requires GCC to use no less than fifty percent of the funds received to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care,

and child care).

Pursuant to section 314(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA), also known as CARES 2 or HEERF II since it is a supplement to the original CARES Act funds, any unliquidated CARES Act funds awarded under Section 18004(a)(1) may be used consistent with the provisions of CRRSAA Section (c)(3) for obligations incurred on or after December 27, 2020. The CRRSAA requires GCC provide the “same amount” of funding in financial aid grants to students that it was required to provide under its original Student Aid Portion allocation amount. The CRRSAA expanded the allowable use of the student aid, including payment of tuition (with the student’s consent) and mental health care.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, also known as ARP or HEERF III represents the third stream of funding appropriated for HEERF to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, to be used for emergency financial aid grants to students. HEERF III is structured like the HEERF II programs under CRRSAA. Institutions are directed with the ARP Funds to prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell grants.

The following process was developed for the CARES Act, HEERF funds distribution:

1. SPRING 2020 and SPRING 2021 Establish Student Determination Criteria:
 - a. Student must be a current full time or part time student for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021.
 - b. Full time= 12 credits or more; Part time = 11 credits or less
 - c. The total number of enrolled credits on 4/11/2020 and 3/5/2021 is used to determine student status for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively.
 - i. Students who withdrew from all classes before 4/11/ 2020 and 3/5 2021 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively, are not eligible.
 - ii. If a student withdrew from one or more classes prior to 4/11/20 and 3/5/2021 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively, status will be adjusted (i.e. FT to PT).
 - d. The student listing is verified against the list of students receiving Pell grants for Spring 2021 to ensure that all Pell Grant recipients are provided a student aid.
 - e. Students participating in the University of Guam (UOG) consortium agreement and who identified UOG as their home school, will not be eligible for GCC disbursement. Funds will be provided through UOG.
2. On March 14, 2020, the Governor of Guam, Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero issued Executive Order #2020-04, requiring the closure of all schools, including the Guam Community College. GCC closed its campus to the public and began the transition of students to online courses effective 3/17/2020. Arrangements have been made to extend completion of courses up to Spring 2021, for students who need additional time to complete. E.O. #2020-46 authorized public and private schools to resume in-person instruction on January 19, 2021, provided that such instruction is operated in accordance with applicable DPHSS guidance. Therefore, the College has determined

that all currently enrolled students have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and are in need of assistance.

- The calculated grant aids were:

Student Status	Spring 2020	Spring 2021
Full Time student	\$440	\$600
Part Time Student	\$220	\$300

- The College worked on gathering required information, to include enrollment status and confirmation of student addresses. Checks were ready for mailing on 4/22/2020 and 03/10/2021 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively. The College is planning to issue grant aids to its Fall 2021 students.
- For Spring 2021 students who desired to use the financial aid grant to satisfy their outstanding amount balances, they were required to submit a written (or electronic) affirmative consent authorizing the Guam Community College to do so.
- Public announcements of CARES Act disbursement were made on 4/22/2020 and 03/09/2021 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively.
- Announcements to students were posted on MyGCC on 4/22/2020 and 03/09/2021 for Spring 2020 and Spring 2021, respectively.

Financial Aid Outreach Activities

Guam Community College Financial Aid Office conducted several outreach activities to support current and future students from May 2021 to present (see Table below).

Date	Event/Description	Location
May 2021	Revised College Brochure	Revision of College Brochure to include Covid-19-related information
5/24/2021	Informational Table to hand out brochures to and answer questions from potential students and/or parents of students/potential students.	JFK High School (Special Vaccine Clinic)
5/27/2021	All FAFSA Students Notified via MyGCC (Financial Aid Tracking Letter) of Professional Judgment option due to Covid-19	Students who applied for financial aid were provided information and the instructions for processing Professional Judgment via the tracking letter on Banner.

Date	Event/Description	Location
6/11/2021	Informational Table to hand out brochures to and answer questions from potential students and/or parents of students/potential students.	Father Duenas Memorial School (Special Vaccine Clinic)
6/15/2021	Facebook Live Session	Virtual Presentation and invitation to Hands on Workshop
7/27/2021	Hands-on Workshop on how to complete the FAFSA application	Bldg. 5000 Room 5204
7/29/2021	Hands-on Workshop on how to complete the FAFSA application	Bldg. 5000 Room 5204
Summer 2021 & Ongoing	Direct Calls to Students	Direct calls were made to students who previously applied for financial aid, but did not attend the hands-on workshops to explain the application requirements, as well as special qualifying circumstances that may be considered (Professional Judgment).