

## Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Reporting

The CARES Act Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)-IHE/Student Aid offers funding to institutions to provide emergency financial aid grants to students to cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. 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.

WMed signed and submitted the Certificate and Agreement of Funds document to the Department of Education on April 17, 2020 agreeing to provide the mandated amount of at least 50% of the emergency financial aid grant funding to students. WMed received confirmation and acceptance of the document on May 7, 2020.

The total amount of funds WMed can receive under the HEERF student portion is \$39,282. As of September 01, 2020, WMed has received and disbursed \$21,803.

The current estimated number of students eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and therefore eligible to receive an emergency financial aid grant is approximately 313. As of September 01, 2020, sixty-one students have received an emergency financial aid grant.

Enrolled students who have additional cost of attendance related expenses due to the disruption of campus operations beginning on March 16, 2020, may apply for the grant. WMed students were notified about the availability of these Emergency Financial Aid Grants and the application process for the funds via email notifications, Student Weekly Communications, student portal and forums. Students can apply for the grant by completing the <a href="mailto:CARES Act Request Form">CARES Act Request Form</a>, and submitting it to the office of Financial Aid at <a href="mailto:FinancialAid@med.wmich.edu">FinancialAid@med.wmich.edu</a> along with any supporting documentation. More information about the CARES Act and HEERF can be found <a href="mailto:here">here</a>.

WMed will review all completed applications for accuracy and verification of Title IV eligibility. The office of Financial Aid will determine if the request meets the guidelines of the HEERF grant funds. Each student's situation is evaluated individually based on the information provided in the student's application. The maximum amount of the grant fund per student, shall not exceed the amount of a full Pell Grant of \$6,195. Actual awards are significantly lower than \$6,195 with limits placed on items, such as technology equipment, home office, or Internet in order to assist as many students as possible. Approved requests will be submitted for payment through the medical school's student information system.

Revised September 01, 2020