

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Report Created on March 31, 2021



This document provides the necessary information to comply with Section 18004(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act” or the “Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281.

Certification and Agreement

On April 13, 2020 Baker College signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement document under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. The CARES Act Student Grant funds became available to Baker College on April 23, 2020 for a total amount of \$2,877,191. Baker College intends to use the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.

Eligible Students

Approximately 2800 students qualify for the CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants by meeting the requirements of Section 484 in the Higher Education Act of 1965 and having a disruption of campus operations resulting from COVID-19.

Note: 4900 students received federal financial aid funds during the spring semester and would be determined Title IV eligible under Section 484 in the Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. However, this figure includes students who were taking online courses which were not disrupted due to the Coronavirus.

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants have been distributed to 2,979 students (including 375 students awarded funds from the Institutional Grant portion of the CARES Act).

Funds Distributed

Baker College has distributed the full amount of Student Grants (\$2,877,191) to students. In addition, Baker College has awarded \$526,310 to students from the Institutional Grant portion of the CARES Act.

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Report Created on March 31, 2021



Methodology to Determine Who Receives Funds

While Baker College understands that all students have been impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic, these federal funds contain very specific eligibility requirements. Qualified students must meet all of the following (this list is not all-inclusive):

- Registered in at least one on-campus course that transitioned to the online format or a lab/clinical/work experience course that has been delayed due to COVID-19
- Enrolled in an eligible certificate or degree program
- Meet federal Title IV eligibility requirements
 - US citizen or eligible non-citizen with a valid social security number
 - Males must be registered with the selective service
 - Not in default or owe an overpayment of Title IV funds
 - Meet the financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress rules
 - Not be enrolled in elementary or secondary school
- Incurred increased expenses as a direct result of the disruption of campus operations

Methodology to Determine Grant Amounts

The amount of assistance was determined by the Federal CARES Act Emergency Assistance Application and/or eligible expenses identified by Baker College based on institutional disruption and course delays. The amounts were calculated on an overall average of expenses incurred and are prorated based on the student's financial aid need level (utilizing the EFC as calculated through the FAFSA process).

- Technology assistance: \$500
- Equipment purchase: up to \$500
- Living/housing allowance for delayed coursework: up to \$2000
- Living allowance based on student needs: up to \$1100
- Housing expense assistance based on student needs: up to \$900
- Child care assistance based on student needs: up to \$600

CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Report Created on March 31, 2021



Student Notification & Instructions

On April 27, 2020 an email was sent to all students who were enrolled in at least one on-campus course for spring semester as of March 13, 2020. In addition, an email was sent to all online and non-degree seeking students informing them of our awarding criteria and their ineligibility based on the fact that there was no disruption to online courses.

During the week of May 11, 2020 all students meeting the qualifying criteria were awarded the emergency grant funds and were sent an email including any action steps required. Students who were determined to be Title IV eligible had no required action; however, we recommended that they set up their refund preference with BankMobile (if not done previously). Students who had not previously completed a FAFSA or the application, were given instructions to accept their award which includes the self-certification of Title IV eligibility.

Additional Funding

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act) was signed into law. Through this act, Baker College was awarded additional federal funding to assist students with emergency expenses related to Coronavirus. Additional details regarding this funding is available at <https://www.baker.edu/cares-act-reporting>.

Questions regarding the CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students should be directed to: financialaid@baker.edu.