

Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act)

Salisbury University Grant# P425E200233

4/20/2020 – 4/19/2021

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)

Salisbury University (SU) signed and submitted a Certification and Agreement to the US Department of Education on April 11, 2020, requesting funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund. SU received \$5,959,457, and will distribute one-half (\$2,979,729) directly to students in the form of Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

To satisfy the requirements of Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, Salisbury University identified students eligible for funding as those having a current FAFSA on file with the university (for more information see: [CARES Emergency Student Grant](#)). In spring 2020, SU had 5349 eligible students. Per Secretary Betsy DeVos' guidance, our intent was to provide emergency relief to the students who exhibited the greatest need. We considered students with an Estimated Family Contribution of \$30,000 or less. Using the above criteria, we identified 4,050 students for immediate emergency aid.

The emergency financial aid was to reimburse expenses that students incurred due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the implementation of fully online, remote instruction. We recognize that students had to travel back and forth to campus due to spring break and the order to vacate their student housing. We also recognize that students incurred expenses related to technology as a result of transitioning to an online instruction environment. As such, the following expenses were reimbursed:

Eligible in-state students received \$150 for travel expenses.

Eligible out-of-state students received \$250 for travel expenses.

All eligible students received \$300 for technology expenses (internet and software requirements, web cams, etc.)

By April 30, 2020, within 30 days of receiving the award, a total of \$1,868,100 was distributed to 4,050 students. The students were notified by e-mail of their refund. Additional announcements were made via social media, and the Salisbury University Financial Aid Office website.

The remaining \$1,111,629 for direct student support has been allocated for SU Emergency Aid applications. Students meeting enrollment, U.S. citizenship and satisfactory academic progress requirements who are Title IV eligible and have incurred an economic hardship or expenses due to the disruption of campus activities directly related to COVID-19 may apply for reimbursement through this fund. All students will be notified of the additional funds via a campus-wide announcement. Students may apply through an online scholarship system. Awards will be made up to \$1,000 per student, with exceptions possible on a case-by-case basis. Fulfillment of these emergency aid grant applications will require the balance of funds for direct student aid. Awards will be made until all the Direct Student Support funds (\$2,979,729) are expended.

Submitted May 11, 2020