

## Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Report – Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students

Updated: January 10, 2021

Quarter Ending: December 31, 2020 (FINAL REPORT)

**West Coast Ultrasound Institute (OPE ID: 03639300)** received education stabilization funds under Section 18004(a)(1) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), Public Law No. 116-136. This Fund Report applies to the student portion received under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund that is designated exclusively for emergency financial aid grants to students.

The institution appreciates that Congress and the President have made these critical funds available for eligible students who have expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus pandemic. We take receipt of these federal funds seriously and are distributing them in accordance with the CARES Act and implementing guidance.

The institution is making the below information available for transparency purposes and in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education’s (“Department”) Electronic Announcement of May 6, 2020.<sup>1</sup> For questions or concerns regarding this Fund Report, please contact **Andrew High, COO**, at [andrew.high@wcu.edu](mailto:andrew.high@wcu.edu).

1. The institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students. These grant funds represent no less than 50 percent of the funds provided under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act. The institution has used, or intends to use, these funds to provide emergency financial aid grants to students.
2. The total amount of funds that the institution will receive or has received from the Department pursuant to the institution’s Certification and Agreement [for] Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students is **\$902,941.00**.
3. The total amount of emergency financial aid grants distributed to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of this Fund Report is **\$906,635.86**.
4. The estimated total number of students at the institution 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 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act, as of the date of this Fund Report is **1,302**<sup>2</sup>.
5. The total number of students who have received an emergency financial aid grant under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act as of the date of this Fund Report is **1,294**. Emergency grants issued to eight students were not claimed, and after six months were re-distributed to other eligible students.
6. The methods 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 are provided at **Attachment A**.
7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants are provided at **Attachment B**.

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://ifap.ed.gov/electronic-announcements/050620HigherEdEmergencyReliefFundRptg>

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this report, institutions may determine the number of eligible students based on the number of students for whom the institution has received an Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) plus the number of students who completed an alternative application form developed by the institution for this purpose. The institution may then apply this number to its own methodological framework for disbursement of funds to produce a final total of eligible students at the institution. The institution is not asked to make assumptions about the potential eligibility of students for whom the institution has not received an ISIR or an alternative application.

## Attachment A

WCUI has established a HEERF Fund to make emergency grants immediately available to eligible students. *To be eligible for the first disbursement, a Student must have been (as of Friday 5/1/2020):*

- *Actively enrolled at WCUI;*
- *In good academic and financial standing;*
  - *Good financial standing: Student was eligible if he or she had only missed payments for the current term. Student was not eligible if he or she had missed payments before the current term.*
  - *WCUI has 3 levels of SAP compliance*
    - *Warning (least severe): Students were eligible*
    - *Probation: Students were eligible*
    - *Provisional: Students were NOT eligible; and*
- *Title IV eligible (under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965). Students who had not yet filed a FAFSA, but met Title IV eligibility criteria, were also eligible.*

### **HEERF Student Fund**

- Total: \$902,941.00
- Projected First Disbursement (85% of fund): \$770,000.00
- Projected Second Disbursement (15% of fund): \$132,941.00

### **Disbursement Policy for HEERF Student Fund**

- **First Disbursement:** WCUI will distribute 85% of the fund equally to all eligible students. This formula will be  $\$770,000.00 / \# \text{ of eligible students}$ . In order to receive these funds, students must sign WCUI's HEERF Certification.
  - Final Numbers Round 1
    - 1,232 eligible students (8 students did not claim their grants)
    - $\$770,000.00 / 1,232 = \$625.00$
    - Actual Total Round 1:  $\$625.00 * 1,224 = \$765,000.00$  (84.723%)
    - Actual Round 2 (Second Disbursement) Availability: \$137,941.00 (15.277%)
- **Second Disbursement:** WCUI will retain approximately 15% of these funds for future student emergencies related to COVID-19 on an as-needed basis. Eligible students will need to apply for these funds using WCUI's HEERF Application Form along with a written statement expressing the student's exceptional need. Application Deadline is October 8, 2020. WCUI will consider the following factors in making decisions:
  - Financial responsibility for:
    - food expenses
    - housing expenses
    - expenses related to course materials to attend school
    - expenses related to technologies associated with attending online classes
    - health care expenses
    - childcare expenses
  - Exceptional Need due to COVID-19:
    - Students will be able to request additional funds based on the above parameters. Not all student requests will be approved.
  - Final Numbers Round 2
    - 422 eligible students (411 received federal funds, 11 received institutional funds)

- $\$137,941.00 / 411 = \$335.63$
- Actual Total Round 2:  $\$335.63 * 422 = \$141,635.86$

• **Status of Disbursements (Round 1 and Round 2)**

	Recipients	Unique Recipients (no previous HEERF award)	Grant Amount	Total Amount Disbursed	Federal Funds	WCUI Funds
<b>Round 1 (May 1)</b>	1,232	1,232	\$625.00	\$770,000.00	\$770,000.00	\$0.00
Round 1 unclaimed checks voided & re- distributed in Round 2	(8)	(8)	\$625.00	\$(5,000.00)	\$(5,000.00)	\$0.00
<b>Round 2 (November 20 – December 7)</b>	422	70	\$335.63	\$141,635.86	\$137,941.00	\$3,694.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>1,294</b>		<b>\$906,635.86</b>	<b>\$902,941.00</b>	<b>\$3,694.86</b>

**Attachment B**

The institution has provided the following instructions, directions, or guidance to students concerning the emergency financial aid grants:

- Student acknowledges that the HEERF grant funds provided by WCUI to Student are for use by Student for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, including any eligible expenses under a student’s cost of attendance, such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, childcare and other expenses.
- Student acknowledges that WCUI is required by Section 18004(e) of the CARES Act to report to the Secretary regarding how grants were distributed to students, the amount of each grant awarded to each student and how the amount of each grant was calculated.
- Student certifies that he/she is a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen; has a valid Social Security number; has registered with Selective Service (if applicable); has a valid high school diploma or its equivalent; and is not in default on a Title IV loan.