

# Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Notification

## Overview

The [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) includes a Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) that provides more than \$14 billion in emergency funding to higher education. Of those funds, more than \$6 billion must go directly to students in the form of emergency financial aid grants (HEERF-student share) for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the COVID-19 crisis. On April 9, 2020, the ED published a list of individual institutional [allocations](#), a [certification form](#) that must be signed and returned in order to access the funds, and a [letter](#) from Secretary Betsy DeVos outlining ED's implementation of the CARES Act program. On April 21, 2020, ED released [additional clarification](#) on student eligibility and allowable uses of HEERF-student share funds.

## What eligibility criteria are in section 484 of the Higher Education Act (HEA)?

A: Section 484 of the HEA states that Title IV eligible students must:

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a degree or certificate program.
- Not be enrolled in elementary or secondary school.
- For currently enrolled students, be making satisfactory academic progress.
- Not owe an overpayment on Title IV grants or loans.
- Not be in default on a Title IV loan.
- File "as part of the original financial aid application process" a certification that includes
  - A statement of educational purpose.
  - Student's SSN.
- Be a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen.
- Have not fraudulently obtained Title IV funds if convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges.
- Have not fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits.
- Have repaid Title IV loan amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits if obtained inadvertently.
- Have Selective Service registration verified.
- Have Social Security Number verified.
- Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.

Please contact school officer for this grant information, eligibility and/or how to pick up your grant's check at 509-475-2951 or [Kathy@ibec.edu](mailto:Kathy@ibec.edu)