CARES Act Disclosure Web Page

Schools eligible to receive funding from the CARES Act under Section 18004 are required to report information describing the use of CARES Act funds to the Secretary of Education. The Department of Education (hereafter ED) issued final guidance on the format for reporting on August 31st, 2020, instructing schools to provide the specific information below to students, as well as modifying the frequency for reporting. This information is required to be updated by the 10th day following the end of the calendar year quarter (October 10, January 10, April 10, July 10), until all funds have been spent.

Final Report – April 10th, 2021

1. An acknowledgement that the institution signed and returned to the Department the Certification and Agreement and the assurance that the institution has used, or intends to use, no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students.
   a. MBU completed and submitted to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement on April 17th, 2020.
   b. MBU has used no less than 50 percent of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students, as is required under Section 18004(c).

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.
   a. MBU received $783,904 from ED on April 26th, 2020 for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students under Section 18004(c).

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 submission (i.e., as of the 30-day Report and every calendar quarter thereafter).
   a. First 30 Day Report: As of May 26th, 2020, no funds had been distributed to students.
   c. Third Report: As of August 24th, 2020, MBU had awarded $745,350.00.
   d. Fourth Report: As of September 30th, 2020, MBU had awarded $745,850.
   e. Fifth Report: As of December 31st, 2020, MBU had awarded $745,450.
   f. Final Report: As of March 31st, 2020, MBU has awarded $783,904 and has no additional funding to award.

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 to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
   a. As of May 20th, prior to the May 21st, 2020, statement by the Department of Education indicating that Section 484 of the Higher Education Act was no longer a limiting factor for determining eligibility for CARES Act funds, MBU had determined that 1157 students were eligible to receive funding.
   b. As of May 22nd, 2020, following the May 21st, 2020, statement by the Department of Education, MBU determined 1828 students were eligible to receive funding.
   c. On June 17th, 2020, ED published an Interim Final Rule that again restricted eligibility funding under section 18004 (a)(1) of the CARES Act students to only include those students who are eligible for Title IV aid. Since ED indicates it will not take enforcement action against schools who distributed funds to ineligible students, MBU will require students to have filed a FAFSA for consideration of future funding as of June 17th. No additional estimation of eligible students will be made on a continuing basis unless the disruption to future activities within the MBU community are broad and generalizable to a student population.

5. The total number of students who have received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.
   a. As of April 10th, 2021, MBU awarded 1,759 students.
6. The method(s) 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.

a. Per Q.12 of the Frequently Asked Questions document posted by ED, we excluded any student enrolled exclusively in an online program as of 3/13/2020, which is the date that Proclamation 9994 was issued Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak. Students who were enrolled in our Adult & Online Program, Graduate Online Program, or Distance Learning programs were not given consideration for funding.

b. Students who had withdrawn prior to the issuance of Proclamation 9994 on 3/13/2020 were excluded. Academic records showing students having withdrawn from all coursework that was active on 3/13/2020 were not given consideration.

c. Students who were enrolled in less than one (1) credit hour were not considered for funding.

d. International students were excluded by law.

e. Only students admitted for the purposes of receiving a postsecondary credential were included.

f. All remaining eligible students were considered for a variable award based on three factors.
   
   i. All students received a base $200 award because the university has calculated an expense related to the disruption of campus services that makes it necessary for students to have high-speed internet and additional cellular data plans to continue their education online. A small increase of funding was provided to accommodate rising food prices, as well, because MBU had food services available to students at a cost that would not have risen during the semester as they have done in other purchase markets.

   ii. Students who had to vacate housing received an additional grant of $300 to afford services the university was providing but ceased to provide due to our move to online modalities.

   iii. Students demonstrating significant financial need were provided an additional $500 grant to provide for additional expenses related to the disruption of campus services, namely the purchase of a computer and required software.

   g. MBU continued to take applications for CARES Act funding to disburse the remaining funds after the initial disbursement was made on May 29th, 2020. Students not enrolled on 3/13/2020 were considered through applications if there was evidence that the student applicant has costs associated with the disruption to MBU campus operations related to COVID-19.

7. Any instructions, directions, or guidance provided by the institution to students concerning the Emergency Financial Aid Grants.

a. This page of disclosures you are viewing is linked from this page (click here) which contains a plainer language explanation about MBU’s administration of the CARES Act funds.

b. Students were invited to complete an application for funds MBU has remaining after our initial grant distribution if: they had expenses related to the disruption of MBU’s campus operations that they felt should be considered beyond their initial grant, or if they did not initially receive a grant but had legitimate expenses for which they sought assistance and otherwise met eligibility criteria set by ED.

c. An email was sent to all students eligible to receive an initial disbursement on 5/26/2020 (click here).

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. This law gave new flexibility to schools to use any unspent CARES Act funds in the same manner as the funds apportioned by the CRRSAA. MBU utilized the funds remaining from CARES to provide students funding alongside the funds we issued from the CRRSAA fund on March 5, 2021. This final expenditure of CARES was an amount of $38,454.

Questions about CARES Act Student Emergency Grants can be sent to SFS@mobap.edu.