

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS HOPE-TEXARKANA

Institutional Directive
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Student Distribution Executive Summary
Spring 2020

Under the United States Department of Education authorization to institutions of higher education to disburse emergency funds to students through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana makes the following determinations:

- Funds are to be used to provide grants directly to students to cover students' expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the coronavirus;
- Eligible student expenses include, but are not limited to, expenses under a student's cost of attendance such as, food, housing, course materials or supplies, technology, loss of employment, reduction in work hours, health care, and child support;
- UAHT's process for how to award emergency assistance to students considers a maximum funding threshold for each student to ensure that funds are distributed as widely as possible;
- UAHT's process for how to award emergency assistance to students prioritizes students whose family income is in the low to low-middle income categories;
- Students must have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2019-2020 academic year and be Title IV-eligible under Section 484 of the Higher Education Act (HEA) as detailed in the Eligibility Addendum below;
- Funding thresholds consider whether students were enrolled and actively participating in classes as of March 13, 2020;
- Funding thresholds consider whether students are enrolled in six (6) credit hours or above, or less than six credit hours as of March 13, 2020;
- Funding thresholds consider Expected Family Contributions (EFC) ranges as calculated according to formulas established by law;
- UAHT will use 80% (\$462,534) of the CARES Act student fund to distribute funds as follows:
 - Students with an EFC index of zero through 1000
 - \$950 per student enrolled in 6 or more credit hours as of 3/13/2020
 - \$700 per student enrolled in less than 6 credit hours as of 3/13/2020
 - Students with an EFC index over 1000
 - \$750 per student enrolled in 6 or more credit hours as of 3/13/2020
 - \$500 per student enrolled in less than 6 credit hours as of 3/13/2020

- Students Title IV eligible but receiving no aid
 - \$650 per student enrolled in 6 or more credit hours as of 3/13/2020
 - \$400 per student enrolled in less than 6 credit hours as of 3/13/2020
- UAHT will reserve 20% (\$115,634) of the CARES Act student fund to distribute funds to students as-needed for students who missed the initial spring distribution or who may demonstrate coronavirus hardships as determined later;
- UAHT will add any funds remaining from the initial distribution to the 20% reserved funds;
- Documentation of student need is required and UAHT will provide, evaluate, and process the form that serves as the documentation required by the United States Department of Education;
- Students who have not completed a 2019-2020 FASFA may do so to become eligible for grant funds by completing the FAFSA at fafsa.gov.

Eligibility Addendum

According to the U.S. Department of Education's (ED's) April 21, 2020 guidance for the CARES Act, *“Only students who are or could be eligible to participate in programs under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), may receive emergency financial aid grants. If a student has filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), then the student has demonstrated eligibility to participate in programs under Section 484 the HEA.”*

To be a Title IV-eligible student under Section 484 of the HEA, the student must:

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a degree, certificate or other recognized educational credential (including a program of study abroad approved for credit by the eligible institution at which such student is enrolled)--that is, a regular student under 34 CFR 600.2);
- Not be enrolled in elementary or secondary school and have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent;
- Be maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) if the student is a currently enrolled student;
- Not owe an overpayment (refund) on Title IV grants;
- Not be in default on a Title IV loan;
- File with ED “as part of the original financial aid application process” a certification (Statement of Educational Purpose) that includes:
 - A statement of educational purpose, and
 - The student’s Social Security Number (SSN);
- Be a U.S citizen or national, a permanent resident, or an eligible noncitizen;
- Have returned any fraudulently obtained Title IV funds, if the student is convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to charges;
- Not have fraudulently received Title IV loans in excess of annual or aggregate limits;
- Have repaid any Title IV loan overpayment amounts in excess of annual or aggregate limits, if obtained inadvertently;

- Have his Selective Service registration verified (the Title IV aid ineligibility for failure to register is actually in the Selective Service Act §3811(f));
- Have a valid SSN, except for residents of the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau; **and**
- Not have a federal or state conviction for drug possession or sale, with certain time limitations.