

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

This document provides the necessary documentation to comply with Section 18004(e) of the Corona Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act” or the “Act”), Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (March 27, 2020).

1. On April 13, 2020, Oklahoma Christian University signed and returned to the Department of Education the Certification and Agreement document under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Section 18004(c) of the CARES Act established the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (“HEERF”); this relief funding is for eligible students to help cover expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic.
2. Oklahoma Christian University has received Emergency Financial Aid Grants totaling \$3,725,625 in three equal disbursements through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). All funds from these three disbursements have been fully awarded and disbursed.
 - The first disbursement of \$809,586 (HEERF I) was received on 4-28-2020.
 - The second disbursement of \$809,586 (HEERF II) was made available on January 17, 2021.
 - The third disbursement (HEERF III) of \$2,106,480 was made available on May 24, 2021.
3. For HEERF I, HEERF II, & HEERF III, 1177 non-duplicated students received on average \$3,166 each for a total distribution of \$3,725,652.
 - HEERF I
 - 836 students received \$810,786, averaging \$970 per student recipient.
 - HEERF I checks began being mailed out on May 5, 2020 and were completed by June 25, 2021.
 - HEERF II –
 - 553 students received \$809,586, averaging \$1464 per student.
 - HEERF II checks began being mailed out on February 22, 2021 and were completed on April 12, 2021.
 - HEERF III –
 - 389 students received \$2,106,480, averaging \$5,401. HEERF III checks began being mailed out on August 11, 2021 and were completed on October 6, 2021.
4. Approximately 1900 students were eligible (and/were possibly eligible) under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and thus eligible to receive Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

Approximately 2500 students were eligible for HEERF II & HEERF III funds. All enrolled students were eligible for HEERF II & HEERF III, and thus not limited to Title IV eligibility.
5. As of May 20, 2021, 956 non-duplicated students had received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant to students.

Financial Aid Grant to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act (HEERF I).

- As of April 21, 2021, 553 students had received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant through the second HEERF disbursement (HEERF II).
 - As of October 5, 2022, 390 students had received an Emergency Financial Aid Grant through the third HEERF disbursement (HEERF III).
6. In the spring of 2020, all eligible students under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 were invited to apply for HEERF I.

HEERF II & HEERF III regulations required that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who received Pell grants or undergraduates who had extraordinary financial circumstances. Therefore, OC prioritized HEERF II grants in the following order:

- Students with high demonstrated financial need and Pell eligible with account balances greater than \$1000.
 - Students with high demonstrated financial need and Pell eligible.
 - Students with high demonstrated financial need who are not Pell eligible.
 - All students who have expenses associated with the COVID 19 pandemic.
7. All students who were eligible students under Section 484 in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 were invited to apply for HEERF I. Students were made aware of their eligibility and opportunity to apply through campus email announcements.

Students were made aware of the HEERF II & III student aid grant through campus announcements. Target groups were emailed an application to apply for HEERF II & III. Each student who submitted an application was notified by the Student Financial Services office that their application was successfully received and under review. The HEERF II & III applications allowed students to decide how they wanted their HEERF grant funds applied (towards their student account balance or via direct cash payment).

THE SELECTION PROCESS:

- Students completed an application for the Hardship Grant and provided associated documentation. The Student Financial Services Office reviewed their federal aid eligibility based on Title IV guidelines and approved the funding. The payments were then approved by the Business Office before being sent as a cash deposit or check to each student.

These CARES grant funds are considered nontaxable income, <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/faqs-higher-education-emergency-relief-fund-and-emergency-financial-aid-grants-under-the-cares-act>