

## **Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Students Fund Reporting**

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the CARES Act (H.R. 748), which provides emergency relief funds to organizations and individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), found in Section 18004 of the CARES Act, provides funding to institutions of higher education “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

This report provides details on the first award Western Illinois University received under the HEERF, the funds for Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Award No. P425E200622.

### **CERTIFICATION**

Western Illinois University signed and returned to the US Department of Education the Certification and Agreement on April 13, 2020. On April 28, 2020 WIU received notification of grant funding from the Department of Education. WIU will use no less than 50% of the funds received under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act to provide Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students. Western Illinois University will receive a total of \$7,997,093 under Section 18004(a)(1) of the HEERF. At least \$3,998,547 will be distributed directly to students impacted by campus disruptions due to the Coronavirus.

### **FUNDS DISTRIBUTED**

As of 05/28/20, WIU has awarded \$3,222,288 in Emergency Financial Aid Grants to students under Section 18004(a)(1) of the CARES Act.

### **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

Western Illinois University has an estimated

**Students with a score of >**

3. If you have a credit balance that is the result of an on-campus housing adjustment you may request those funds be refunded by emailing [billings@wiu.edu](mailto:billings@wiu.edu).
4. If you have not filed your 2020-21 FAFSA we encourage you to do so now to avoid missing out on valuable State funds.
5. To register for the Fall 2020 semester your account balance must be below \$3000. If it is, we encourage you to register and lock in your Fall 2020 schedule.
6. If you are experiencing hardship and need emergency assistance the State of Illinois has provided a guide to economic resources online at [coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov).

If you have questions or concerns regarding your application for emergency aid or application for financial aid (FAFSA) please email [financial-aid@wiu.edu](mailto:financial-aid@wiu.edu)

**Notification to students awarded emergency aid:**

We have reviewed your request for emergency funding, and our goal is to serve as many students as possible. Funding for the emergency grants are provided through the Higher Education Relief Fund authorized by the CARES Act and the WIU Foundation.

You can view your award by logging into STARS and clicking on Financial Aid Awards under the Financials section of the drop down menu.

Grants are applied to a student's University account. Credits can be requested for refund by emailing [WIUCares@wiu.edu](mailto:WIUCares@wiu.edu) regardless of any balance owed. Credits will be issued via direct deposit. Please ensure that the correct bank account is set up under the Direct Deposit Authorization on STARS. If you have not authorized direct deposit, please do so prior to requesting the credit. If direct deposit is unavailable, please let Billing & Receivables know in your email request.

If you and/or your family have experienced a change in income and/or employment as a result fbt De i a5451c()TjEMT3 (d/)-1 tireasd/-3 (e is)- asan be 7ggnc0 ha(s)nd AwtMCID 3lnk >>B

If you have questions or concerns regarding your application for emergency aid please email [financial-aid@wiu.edu](mailto:financial-aid@wiu.edu).